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dairy farmers of Canada, the poultry and feather industry are asking the Prime Minister to go there and get a commitment in the GATT negotiations. Has that been achieved or not? That is what we want to know.

Clearly the supply management groups are the most stable, most viable groups in the country. If he does not have that kind of support from the President in those GATT negotiations, then we could end up with that whole supply management industry being destroyed. We would go on to the future and see this most viable sector, some 35,000 producers producing something like 28 per cent of farm income being destroyed.

The House directed the Prime Minister to do that last February 12. We want to know whether or not he achieved it.

Mr. Gustafson: Mr. Speaker, I would like to comment on that whole direction. What this government has been trying to achieve under the direction of the Prime Minister is important.

When the minister of trade met with Arthur Dunkel of the GATT, I happened to be there with him. At that time he put forward the importance of the concept for Canada. I heard Mr. Dunkel ask if we had any idea of how big a job it is to get the support of 108 nations that are bringing input into the GATT.

This again makes the point of the hon. member trivializing, if you will, the trade war and the contribution that the Prime Minister has made to trying to end this.

We must continue our negotiations. We are a trading nation. We must trade into that international market or we will lose the grain sector or even other sectors, steel or what have you, in Canada.

Our government has taken strong positions under the leadership of the Prime Minister, the Minister for International Trade, the Minister of Agriculture, to achieve these ends. We must continue it. That is the point I am making.

Mr. Foster: Mr. Speaker, what the parliamentary secretary had to say about the Minister for International Trade is very interesting. In fact there was a letter written to the Minister for International Trade and the Minister of Agriculture on February 1 asking if the

government is willing to reconfirm its support for the resolution that was passed on February 12, 1992.

The amendment which our party put down to that resolution says:

And that this House calls upon the Prime Minister to involve himself personally in the GATT negotiations in the interest of Canada's dairy, egg, and poultry producers by meeting with the President of the United States and with the President of the European Community in order to secure their support and to do so in co-operation with other countries that agree with Canada's position on a strengthened and clarified article XI.

There are 130 trading nations in the world but the first two that you have to lock in are the European Community and the United States. The Prime Minister has met with the President of the United States. Did he lock in the President of the United States to support our position? When is he meeting with the European Community? Is the government prepared to reinstate or reaffirm its position for the resolution that was passed unanimously in the House of Commons on February 12, 1992? If he is, it is a direct signal. We will not have these press reports coming out as on January 21 and the headlines reading: "Ottawa altering farm stance. Border barriers find few friends. Ottawa softens—".

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Order, please. I am sorry but the time for comments and questions has now expired.

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I will be taking a 10-minute slot and the second 10-minute slot will be taken by the hon. member for The Battlefords—Meadow Lake.

I am happy to have the opportunity to speak on this motion put forward by the member for Mackenzie. It is very important that this House address agricultural issues. One of the things I have noticed is that the government over the last number of years has tried to create a series of myths about what is happening in Canadian society.

To give some recent examples, the minister of employment is somehow trying to blame those people who for one reason or another have to quit their jobs, as the reason that unemployment insurance is costing so much.

Somehow in that whole debate the government has ignored the fact that over 1.5 million Canadians are unemployed, that last year alone a million people in this country exhausted their UI benefits. They are people who were fired, people who were laid off, people who quit for whatever reason. Somehow the government has