

*Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement*

also know is that the market that they supply is not protected—and that is really what it is all about.

They know very well that raw products, dairy products are cheaper south of the border than they are in Canada, and they know that as time goes by and the duties are eliminated, those processed products can come into their markets and compete directly with them.

While their marketing board may be protected, if there are fewer demands for what they have to sell, what good is their board?

We wanted to propose numerous amendments to the free trade legislation, with the hope that the guarantees inherent in those amendments would provide our farmers with answers to their concerns. The Government wouldn't allow those amendments. It moved closure.

**Some Hon. Members:** Shame!

**Mr. Vancilief:** First it closed its mind, and then it closed the House.

We wanted to propose amendments that would ensure the continuation of our marketing board system, the protection of the Canadian Wheat Board, the protection of our supply management system, control over the importation of processed product so as to protect our poultry and horticultural industries.

All of the proposed amendments, if adopted, would have buffered the approaching shocks that will be faced by Canadian farmers. But no way. We couldn't even be heard, let alone vote on them. The Government doesn't want to consider any amendments. It wants to let the chips fall where they may, and it says again: "Trust us."

Well, I guess we are going to have to do just that. We only have 11 more minutes in which to debate this measure. But I promise Canadians, and I promise the constituents of Prince Edward—Hastings, that we are going to watch and we are going to keep track.

I am proud to be a Member of this place representing the voters of Prince Edward—Hastings. As a Liberal, I am for further trading arrangements, but not for this deal. I had hoped that, at the very least, our amendments would have been adopted so as to help ease the pain that is about to be inflicted on many sectors of this country.

We didn't get that, and so we will watch and we will monitor. As we have said, this part of the debate has only begun.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

• (2450)

**Mr. Mayer:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, we are getting very close to Christmas and it is a tradition in this House that we take a moment to pause and say thank you to all the people who work so hard to serve this place so well. I would like to do that.

We have a new group of Pages who have served us very well. We have the Table Officers, all of the protective staff, our *Hansard* people, those who do the camera switching, our lobby staff, office staff. They have all been working very hard for the last two weeks and we need to recognize the contribution they make and that, without their efforts over the many hours we have been here the last two weeks, none of us would have been able to perform as well as we have.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** The Hon. Minister for International Trade (Mr. Crosbie).

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Some Hon. Members:** Point of order!

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** The Hon. Member for Mississauga East (Ms. Guarnieri) on a point of order.

**Ms. Guarnieri:** Mr. Speaker, I am a new Member from Mississauga East, and since the Government has declared closure I will not have the opportunity to speak.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh!

**Ms. Guarnieri:** I would like the unanimous consent of this House to deliver my maiden speech.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Some Hon. Members:** No!

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** The Hon. Minister for International Trade.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Ms. Copps:** Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** Sit down!

**Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister for International Trade):** Mr.—