

Hon. Mr. WEBSTER: In reply to the honourable gentleman, I would point out that you do not buy oats or peas or barley at \$45 a ton; you are charged \$56 a ton for them. Dealers will sell you what they call bran for \$45 a ton. Under this legislation there will be no sawdust nor shavings mixed with the bran we buy. For that reason I want to see the Bill pass just as it is.

Hon. Mr. McHUGH: Does not the honourable gentleman know that when wheat is passing through the mill, oats or barley or something of that kind may sometimes get mixed with it?

Hon. Mr. WEBSTER: That is all cleaned out.

Hon. Mr. McHUGH: In the grinding some of that gets into the bran. It in no way injures the quality of the bran, but rather improves it.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: May I suggest that we go into committee on this Bill instead of carrying on a discussion of this kind on the second reading.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the second time.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

On motion of Hon. Sir James Loughheed, the Senate went into committee on the Bill. Hon. Mr. Thompson in the Chair.

On section 1—bran and shorts or midlings, when deemed to be adulterated:

Hon. Mr. WATSON: Honourable gentlemen, I am in entire sympathy with the object of this Bill, but I think a strict interpretation of the wording might interfere with its operation. A few kernels of foreign grain in the bran would be illegal according to this Bill. Like my honourable friend, I do not think that bran should be loaded up with noxious weed seeds. As the honourable gentleman from Brockville (Hon. Mr. Webster) has said, it is not only injurious to animals to feed them that class of chop and bran, but it is a fraud upon the purchaser, particularly when it costs from \$40 to \$45 a ton, as it does now.

Hon. Mr. WEBSTER: There is no \$40 bran now; it is \$46 a ton.

Hon. Mr. WATSON: That makes it all the worse. But, as the wording of the Act stands, it would be hardly possible for any person to furnish bran that would come within the requirements of the Act.

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: As my honourable friend is an old miller, I would like to ask

him if all this foreign matter is not cleaned out of the wheat before it is manufactured into flour. If that is done, there should be nothing but bran left. The trouble is that the millers have been mixing seeds of all kinds with it.

Hon. Mr. WATSON: I know that—mill sweepings.

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: But they do not grind up these seeds to make flour.

Hon. Mr. WATSON: There is barley or oats.

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: That is all cleaned too.

Hon. Mr. WEBSTER: If my honourable friend will look at the dictionary he will find that bran is defined as the hull of wheat, and that is what a man wants when he buys bran. The millers will not mix with it other grains which are worth \$10 or \$12 a ton more. But we do not want to buy any more brown chalk, shavings, or sawdust, for bran.

Section 1 was agreed to.

The preamble and the title were agreed to.

The Bill was reported without amendment.

THIRD READING.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHHEED moved the third reading of the Bill.

Hon. Mr. POWER: I just wish to make this observation in connection with the Bill. I think there is a good deal of force in what has been said by the honourable gentleman from Portage la Prairie; but in addition to that it has been announced, privately if not publicly, that we are to have prorogation this afternoon. The result is that the Senate is not to have an opportunity of considering this Bill with a view to amending it. I think it is to be regretted that the Government have assumed the position which they have. There are other important measures to come before us to-day, and, on the whole, I think it would have been wiser and fairer to the Senate if the Government had decided not to have prorogation until to-morrow, so that this House would have a chance to exercise its proper constitutional functions.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHHEED: If my honourable friend from Halifax (Hon. Mr. Power) or my honourable friend from Portage la Prairie (Hon. Mr. Watson) has any amendment to offer, we will give all the time necessary for its consideration.