

THE SENATE

Thursday, March 6, 1952

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE BILL

FIRST READING

A message was received from the House of Commons with Bill 7, an Act for the control and extirpation of Foot and Mouth Disease.

The bill was read the first time.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the second time?

Hon. Mr. Robertson: With leave of the Senate, I would move that this bill be placed on the order paper, to be considered later this day.

The motion was agreed to.

NAVIGATION SCHOOLS

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

On the notice of inquiry by Hon. Senator Duff:

Hon. Mr. Pratt: I should like to draw the attention of honourable senators to the inquiry of the honourable member from Lunenburg (Hon. Mr. Duff), in which he seeks certain information concerning the seamen of "the four Maritime Provinces". In order to keep the record straight, may I suggest that that wording—

The Hon. the Speaker: May I remind the honourable senator that it is not permissible to comment on an inquiry by another honourable member?

Hon. Mr. Dupuis: I think, your honour, that the honourable senator from St. John's West (Hon. Mr. Pratt) is speaking on a point of order or a question of privilege.

The Hon. the Speaker: I did not hear either of those terms mentioned. If there is a point of order or a question of privilege, the honourable senator may of course speak to it.

Hon. Mr. Duff: Go ahead.

Hon. Mr. Pratt: The notice of inquiry by my honourable friend from Lunenburg (Hon. Mr. Duff) uses the term: "the four Maritime provinces," and I simply wish to suggest to him that he substitute for this term the words "the three Maritime provinces and Newfoundland."

Hon. Mr. Quinn: Why not "the four Atlantic provinces"?

Hon. Mr. Pratt: Well, "the four Atlantic provinces" might be quite proper, though it is not a term that has been in ordinary use. The term "the Maritime provinces" has been traditionally and historically applied to the three provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. If that term were adopted to include Newfoundland it might, and I think it would, cause confusion on the mainland and in the province of Newfoundland as well. The honourable gentleman who has given notice of the inquiry is a native of Newfoundland and a good friend of the people of that province, and my point in making this suggestion is simply to avoid confusion.

Hon. Mr. Duff: I have no objection to the suggested change.

CANADA DAIRY PRODUCTS BILL

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. W. D. Euler: Honourable senators, as a matter of privilege and in order to correct misapprehension on the part of the public—certainly a misapprehension in the newspapers and perhaps in the minds of some members of the Senate—I should like to comment briefly on an article that appeared this morning in the *Ottawa Citizen* as well as in the *Toronto Globe and Mail*, and probably in other papers. The article is headed "New Debate in Senate on Margarine," and goes on to say:

A new debate on margarine is looming in the Senate.

Senator W. D. Euler yesterday moved in the upper chamber a bill to amend the Canada Dairy Products Act to allow the free movement of margarine in or out of any province. The measure was given first reading.

Interprovincial movement of margarine now is banned under the Act, . . .

I do not need to read beyond that. At the outset let me say that the last statement I have quoted is incorrect. The fact is that interprovincial movement of margarine is not yet banned, but it can be banned by order in council if the government so desires. The bill I introduced yesterday makes no mention whatever of margarine, nor does the Canada Dairy Products Act passed last year. While margarine may incidentally come into the question on second reading, the measure to which I refer has implications far beyond the subject of margarine.

I should like to remove any misapprehension with regard to the bill that was given first reading yesterday. The fact is that the Canada Dairy Products Act, which was passed