

On section 13—Penalty for acting as trustee without bond.

Mr. LAPOINTE: This is merely to make a clerical change.

Section agreed to.

Section 14 agreed to.

On the preamble.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): Will the minister give us some assurance that the act will come into force fairly soon? The sooner this is done the more effective it will be.

Mr. LAPOINTE: There are certain rules under the act which it will be necessary to alter in conformity with the present amendments. I can promise my hon. friend that as soon as the changes are made the proclamation will issue.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): I trust the minister will expedite those changes.

Mr. LAPOINTE: Certainly.

Bill reported, read the third time and passed.

FRUIT ACT AMENDMENT BILL

SENATE AMENDMENT

Hon. GEORGE P. GRAHAM (for Hon. W. R. Motherwell, Minister of Agriculture) moved the second reading of and concurrence in the amendment made by the Senate to Bill No. 117, to amend the Fruit Act.

Mr. GROTE STIRLING (Yale): Mr. Speaker, I am opposed to this amendment entirely. My main reason is that there is no such body as the Horticultural Council of Canada, and I suggest that it is not reasonable to insert a wrong description. There is a body whose name is the Canadian Horticultural Council. I am further opposed to the amendment because it cuts right across the main object of the section, which was to facilitate the creation of grades which are not included in the Fruit Act. To refer this matter to a body such as the Canadian Horticultural Council may result in very considerable delay, as that council is composed of the representatives of the fruit and vegetable interests all over Canada and it is only at the annual meeting that matters such as this are considered. This very matter has been discussed at considerable length in the conventions of the fruit growers' associations in

different parts of the Dominion; it has also been discussed at the annual meeting of the Canadian Horticultural Council. Matters such as this are frequently discussed between the fruit interests of America and of Canada. The fruit growers are perfectly satisfied with the clause as originally drawn, and I do not think it would be in their interests that the Horticultural Council of Canada should be brought into consultation, even if the name was correct. But my main reason for opposing the amendment is that it would be inserting in the bill reference to a body which does not exist.

Mr. W. C. GOOD (Brant): Mr. Speaker, we have no copy of the amendment made by the Senate.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment will be found in the Votes and Proceedings of yesterday. The amendment is to subsection 3 (a) of section 2:

The minister,—

and here is the amendment made by the Senate:

—“after consultation with the Horticultural Council of Canada and” with the approval of the Governor in Council,—

And so on. There is no other amendment.

Hon. R. J. MANION (Fort William and Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, after the remarks of my hon. friend from Yale (Mr. Stirling) I think the minister (Mr. Graham) might allow this motion to stand over for the time being. If there is no such body as the Horticultural Council of Canada, it would seem a rather extraordinary amendment. Surely there must be some misunderstanding.

Mr. GOOD: I see the only change is the insertion of the “Horticultural Council of Canada,” which is claimed to be the wrong title. It seems to me that if it is merely a clerical error it might be remedied if the motion is allowed to stand for a short time.

Mr. GRAHAM: Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Motherwell) seemed to think that the amendment would not do any serious harm. I think there is a good deal to be said in favour of my hon. friend's contention, and if the Minister of Agriculture were here himself I would suggest rejecting the amendment. But under the circumstances I think it is better to withdraw the motion until the minister himself is present.

Motion withdrawn.