

(Hon. Mr. Belcourt) asked me if I would lay upon the Table a statement of the securities held by the different parties to whom the loans referred to are owing. I have great pleasure in placing this upon the Table. It shows securities of a par value of \$69,449,192, securing the indebtedness of \$67,360,607, which I mentioned yesterday. Those securities would of course revert to the Government in the event of the Government being called upon under their guarantee or contract to pay any of those loans which they seek authority to renew or guarantee.

On section 1—guarantee or renewal or postponement of payment:

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Section 1 makes provision for the Governor in Council to have power to renew or guarantee or pay the obligations referred to.

Section 1 was agreed to.

Sections 2 and 3 were agreed to.

The Bill was reported without amendment.

INSPECTION AND SALE ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

On motion of Hon. Sir James Lougheed, the Senate went into committee on Bill 19, an Act to amend the Inspection and Sale Act (food containers, firewood and cement). Hon. Mr. Daniel in the Chair.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: I ask the committee to permit me to call within the Bar Mr. Byrnes, who is an officer of the department, for the purpose of explaining this Bill.

On section 1, new section 358A—packages of food and containers to be marked:

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: This clause enumerates the various packages and receptacles referred to in the Bill as "containers," and defines how they shall be marked, which is a matter of increasing importance to the consumer. Representations are made to the department from time to time as to the desirability of legislating along these lines, so that the public may be assured of getting what they pay for.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: These clauses are entirely new and in addition to the present Act, as I understand it. Although my honourable friend has not given us very much information, I presume there has been a demand made on the Government or the department for this legislation. It

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED.

seems to me that this clause is very wide. It says:

Every can, carton, bottle, box, barrel, wrapper, package or closed receptacle of whatever description, hereinafter called "the containers," containing human food or any other commodity.

The words "any other commodity" seem to be very wide. I have not very much information about the matter, but I should think this provision would cause a good deal of hardship. An article like a little packet of tacks might be looked upon as a commodity; and to say that a man has to put his Christian name and his surname in full on every packet of tacks is carrying things to a rather extreme point. I cannot find any definition of the word "commodity" in the Act, and I think it would bear the construction which I have put upon it.

Hon. Mr. FOSTER: Before we proceed further with the discussion of this clause, I desire to renew the suggestion made by the leader of the Opposition yesterday, and urge upon the leader of the Government the desirability of suspending for this year the consideration of this Bill. I quite understand the motive that was in the mind of the framer of this Bill, and, so far as the Bill itself is concerned, it might, if amended, serve a useful purpose under certain circumstances. But during the last hours of this session, to bring before the House a Bill which had been generally accepted in the country as not likely to be pressed at this session, appears to me to be an injustice to the people particularly interested in this measure. I do not urge opposition to the Bill on behalf of the manufacturers, who, perhaps, under certain circumstances, would be able to conform to the regulations laid down as essential, but, on behalf of the farmers, whom I especially represent, I say the legislation proposed would work a grievous hardship on them.

In order that the leader of the Government may thoroughly appreciate the position which I take, I would call his attention to section 358A, which is as follows:

358a. Every can, carton, bottle, box, barrel, wrapper, package or closed receptacle of whatever description, hereinafter called "the container," containing human food or any other commodity manufactured, produced, sold or offered for sale in Canada, when such container is in its original unopened or unbroken form as it is usually delivered to consumers when sold or offered for sale in Canada, shall be plainly marked, stamped, branded, or otherwise indicated on the outside or top or on a label or tag attached thereto,—

(a) with the initials of the Christian names and the surnames at full length, of the filler or person for whom such container is filled.