

THE BUDGET

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE
MINISTER OF FINANCE

might be held at which small-scale demonstrations of protective measures be undertaken, and is quite prepared to co-operate by providing the advisory services necessary. This is the usual method of approach to such a problem in the control of insects in agriculture which are from their nature manifestly a matter of local concern.

Mr. Harris (Danforth): I should like to remind the intelligentsia of this house that these termites have a habit of crawling, and that they are always looking for new fields of activity. I should also like to remind the parliamentary assistant that the time for having meetings expired before the by-election; therefore he is too late.

Mr. Wylie: As a western member, may I ask the parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Agriculture this question? In view of the statement he just made, can he tell the house how many termites are going to vote in the by-election today being held in Toronto?

Mr. Cruickshank: That will depend on the social credit vote.

Mr. Graydon: You are a little bit slow, but you are good.

COMBINES

BAKERY FIRMS IN WESTERN PROVINCES—
QUESTION AS TO PROSECUTIONS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. G. Diefenbaker (Lake Centre): Is the Minister of Justice in a position to give a measure of enlightenment, equal to that given just now on another matter by the parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Agriculture, in answer to my question as to the prosecution of bread companies in western Canada?

Mr. Graydon: Termites have gotten into that too, I suppose.

Hon. Stuart S. Garson (Minister of Justice): I am informed that charges have not yet been laid. Counsel recently reported to the department that the lengthy task of preparing the case for trial is now nearing completion.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Is the minister utilizing the services of the attorneys general of Saskatchewan and Alberta in the preparation of the case?

Mr. Garson: No. The usual privilege of prosecution was extended to the two provinces, as in all cases of the kind, and neither province wished to exercise that privilege. The case is being handled by counsel in Alberta, instructed by the Department of Justice.

The house resumed, from Friday, October 21, consideration of the motion of Hon. Douglas Abbott (Minister of Finance) that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair for the house to go into committee of ways and means, and the amendment thereto of Mr. Rowe, and the amendment to the amendment of Mr. Thatcher.

Mr. Irvin W. Studer (Maple Creek): Those of us from far-away places, Mr. Speaker, would like to suggest a few things this afternoon in connection with the budget, the amendment thereto and the amendment to the amendment. The reason we should like to do so is that we come from an area in Saskatchewan which at most times is in such a position that the budget is of extreme interest to it, as it is to other parts of Canada. We who come from the wheat-growing area of Canada, inasmuch as wheat is one of the products that create considerable wealth in Canada, think that interesting items like the budget enter into our situation. We think that the amendment also affects us, as does the subamendment. For this reason, for a little while this afternoon, we should like to continue the debate which was started last spring.

We have been told that this budget has changed little from what it was last spring. I think all of us will realize, however, that if the budget has not been changed, the amendment is different from the one that was proposed last spring, as is the subamendment. Regardless of all the lost markets we have heard about, a continuation of what I believe was stated to a considerable extent last spring, and the effect the different policies of the government have had on us since that time, we would suggest that possibly the situation is not quite so different as has been suggested to what it was at the particular time last spring when the budget was offered for our consideration.

This amendment as well as the subamendment are of great interest to us because it appears to me that the adoption of certain amendments or subamendments can change the entire economy of the country. One of the things done by this government of Canada, which is now and has been for some years in power, is this. It has created a balance in all its operations—in its laws, and in everything that affects the balance of the economy of this country. The government did not concentrate its efforts along one particular