

Mr. VENIOT: So far as changing the composition of the agriculture committee is concerned, though I am not a member of that committee I am a consumer of butter, and I have as much right as members representing the agricultural interests to have my say before this committee as a consumer.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): No one has disputed that.

Mr. VENIOT: And as a consumer I am not protected under that clause; that is what I claim.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): In what way?

Mr. VENIOT: I have already explained it, and the minister cannot tell me why tubs and crocks have been left out of the definition.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): Are they receptacles? If they are, they are covered.

Mr. VENIOT: Yes; but why put them in in the first part of the bill and not in the second? There must be an object. I do not want to be suspicious or to attribute motives at all.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): Each part of the bill was prepared at a different time. I see no gain in changing the wording either in part I or in part II, because in part II the definition of package includes everything in part I. The wording was prepared at different times. The receptacles indicated in part II will include everything in part I. No additional purpose would be served by making the change, and I feel we are wasting the time of the committee in further discussion.

Mr. ELLIOTT: Does the minister intend by "any other receptacle or covering" to include receptacles of a kind or type different from any box, paper wrapper or carton?

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): No, that is not intended—any other receptacle.

Mr. ELLIOTT: Any other receptacle, even if different from boxes? Then I want to submit, and I know that the Prime Minister will agree with me, that this does not express the idea.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): Will the hon. member repeat the question?

Mr. ELLIOTT: "Any box, paper wrapper, carton or any other receptacle or covering used for the packing of dairy produce" means only any other receptacle or covering of the type already mentioned, namely, boxes, paper wrappers or cartons. If the minister intends

it to include coverings other than boxes, paper wrappers or cartons, he must put in the words I have suggested in order to convey that meaning.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): It is intended to cover all types of receptacle which it might be considered satisfactory to use.

Mr. ELLIOTT: If that is the intention, may I point out with great respect to the minister that that intention is not conveyed now, because as it is worded now it covers only boxes, paper wrappers, cartons or other receptacles or coverings of that nature.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): It does not say "of that nature" here.

Mr. ELLIOTT: I know, but it does not need to, and the Prime Minister will say so.

Mr. BENNETT: He will say that this matter has been considered by the agriculture committee, and considered very carefully too, and reported back without amendments.

Mr. ELLIOTT: Who will say that—the Prime Minister?

Mr. BENNETT: Yes, he is saying it now.

Mr. ELLIOTT: The committee on agriculture no doubt knows a lot more about agriculture, but they do not know more about the drafting of a statute than lawyers do, and I do not think that the Prime Minister would suggest that the agriculture committee knows more about drafting a statute than he does.

Mr. BENNETT: I once heard of a distinguished lawyer whose friends said he was easily the best farmer in the district while a farmer friend said he was easily the best lawyer in the district. That has no personal application, although the hon. member for Charlevoix-Saguenay expects me to say it refers to him.

Mr. VENIOT: "Any other receptacle or covering" would allow a farmer who perhaps might not be always disposed to strict cleanliness to bring in butter and sell it from door to door wrapped up in cloth, as I have seen some do. Now that is a covering; it may not be a receptacle but it is a covering, and that is why, to protect the consumer against that sort of thing, I want these definitions specified.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): The hon. member may still get his butter in cloth if he wishes it.