

position. As a matter of fact, in the case of the wheat board they are not handling public funds and what we have been trying to do is to draw a line between those which use public money and those which are concerned with private funds, the money of the producers.

Mr. WRIGHT: They are concerned with the producer's money.

Mr. JUTRAS: What I mean is there are some bodies which go back to parliament every year, they have to come back to parliament every year to get authority from parliament to carry on, and to get funds for that purpose; and the reason they come back to parliament every year is because public money is concerned and funds have to be voted. I think to insist on having an organization like the wheat board forced to come to parliament every year would leave a wrong impression. I do not think it is desirable to place it with the other crown corporations because they are so far apart, and that is the reason why we have to look into them more closely.

Mr. SINCLAIR: What if we as a committee recommend—

The CHAIRMAN: As soon as we finish with this matter I think that would be in order; but, I think we should deal with the bill first, and that would not prevent us from making a second report in which we could repeat our recommendation made the year before, the session before. We did make a recommendation last session in which we said:

Most of the matters considered for recommendation by the committee and dealing especially with parliamentary control over Crown corporations and the regulating of special warrants as a source of authority for expenditures, are covered in bill 401, the Financial Administration Act, first reading of which was given on June 25, and your committee will therefore have further occasion to look into these matters when this bill is referred to the committee as has already been announced.

The year before the committee made a specific recommendation. So after we are through with this bill, it would be in order for Mr. Wright to bring up the matter. But as we are now, do you still persist in the idea of moving that the Wheat Board be included, Mr. Wright?

Mr. WRIGHT: There is not much object in my moving it because it would be defeated anyway.

The CHAIRMAN: I gave you the floor and you had three items this afternoon. Before I turn the witness over to Mr. Macdonnell, have you another question that you want to ask the minister?

Mr. WRIGHT: No, I do not think so.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Macdonnell?

Mr. MACDONNELL: There are one or two matters I would like to speak about when the bill comes before the House and I would be glad to have the minister's comment, if he cares to make any at this time.

The first is the fact that a good many of the companies, I am quite sure, are incorporated under the Dominion Companies Act and as such have extraordinary wide powers under clause 14. Mr. Balls has been good enough to give me an order in council which sets out the relations with the Canadian Arsenals, one of those companies. The order in council sets out the limitation of those powers. I realize that the matter is highly technical but on the other hand it does seem a pity, unless there is some reason for it, and does seem to be an anomaly that these companies should be set up with powers, by virtue of section 14, many of which of course are utterly inapplicable to them, such as power to buy other companies, and power to sell property, and so on. So my question is really this: Was it merely a matter of convenience and to save trouble that that was done, or is there con-