

Farm Products Marketing Agencies Bill

Mr. Horner: To my knowledge, these two amendments were not on the bargaining table, and they should have been if the minister wanted them. Since they were not on the bargaining table I do not give consent now.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. There is a rule in the book that when legislation is passed it is supposed to make sense and hold together. I do not have the exact wording, but there is such a rule. The Minister of Agriculture did show these two amendments to some of us. One of them is intended to change the number of a section of another act to which reference is made. If this change is not made, the legislation we pass will be incorrect in that it will refer to the wrong section.

The other has reference to the Revised Statutes of Canada. The change has to be made because the Revised Statutes for 1970 have been proclaimed since this bill was drawn up. It seems to me that these amendments ought to be allowed in the interest of drawing up a bill that makes sense.

Mr. Horner: On the point of order, may I say that the proposed amendment dealing with the Revised Statutes of Canada is one which deals with Revised Statutes which came into force on July 15. Where has the minister been since July 15? I have no sympathy with him and I must withhold consent.

Mr. Lessard (Lac-Saint-Jean): Very intelligent.

Mr. Paproski: You keep your mouth shut.

Mr. Lessard (Lac-Saint-Jean): I would prefer to keep my mouth shut rather than make a statement like that.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I think the Chair has to make a determination on the basis of Standing Order 75(7). I will read it, and then ask the Minister of Agriculture whether he could give the Chair notice of the amendments. The Chair has no notice of the amendments at present, but if the minister would give notice I would be in a position to make a ruling.

Section (7) of Standing Order 75 states:

An amendment in relation to form only in a government bill may be proposed by a Minister of the Crown without notice, but debate thereon may not be extended to the provisions of the clause or clauses to be amended.

There is a note following the section which I will also read:

The purpose of the section is to facilitate the incorporation into a bill of amendments of a strictly consequential nature flowing from the acceptance of other amendments. No waiver of notice would be permitted in relation to any amendment which would change the intent of the bill, no matter how slightly, beyond the effect of the initial amendment.

If the Minister of Agriculture would give notice of the amendments he proposes, the Chair would be prepared to make a ruling on the basis of the Standing Order I have quoted.

Mr. Horner: On the point of order, Mr. Speaker, the leader of the House proposed a motion, a time allocation motion, which stated the House could take 90 minutes to discuss amendments Nos. 1, 5 and 22, 90 minutes to discuss amendment 18 and 90 minutes in debating amend-

ment No. 27; and that in the remaining time between now and ten o'clock hon. members would deal with the other 25 amendments. No mention was made of these two amendments which the minister now proposes. We are spending ten minutes now dealing with amendments which are new to us. I regret very much that an amendment that has been necessary since July 15 should be brought forward at this point, without a word having been said about them previously, although negotiations have been going on for two weeks. I regret very much having to put back in the farthest corner of my mind the suspicions that lurk there following actions such as this.

Mr. Olson: On the point of order, Mr. Speaker, I can assure you that these two amendments do fall into the category you mentioned. One is intended to substitute a seven for a five, because the reference number in the Aeronautics Act has been changed. The reference is to exactly the same clause in that act, but it now has a different number.

As far as the other change is concerned, we hoped to delete clause 39, which was for the purpose of co-ordinating this bill with the Revised Statutes of Canada. As far as I am concerned, clause 39 no longer serves any useful purpose.

• (9:30 p.m.)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I think this is an important point. The concern of the Chair, and I shall have to make a ruling, is that the amendments can only be accepted with the unanimous consent of the House. I read previously Standing Order 75(7). The explanatory note was obviously put there for the guidance of the Chair and hon. members. I will read it again:

The purpose of the section is to facilitate the incorporation into a bill of amendments of a strictly consequential nature flowing from the acceptance of other amendments.

That is probably the point on which the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Olson) may founder. Unless hon. members or the minister can convince me that the amendments which the minister proposes flow from the acceptance of other amendments at this stage, I must rule they can only be proposed with the unanimous consent of the House.

Mr. Olson: Mr. Speaker, I will bring them in at the next session.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. The House now has before it for consideration motion No. 4. The motion, moved by the hon. member for Crowfoot (Mr. Horner), is as follows:

That Bill C-176, to establish the National Farm Products Marketing Council and to authorize the establishment of national marketing agencies for farm products, be amended

(a) by deleting from subclause (e) of clause 2 the words "regulation and control" at lines 6 and 7, page 2; and

(b) by deleting paragraph (iii) of subclause (e) of clause 2 at page 2 and by relettering subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.