

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: On this point, I understand that there is one gentleman who does not occupy the most prominent position in the pool, and who has been here with more important or more responsible representatives, and who is now confronted with this offer which is made. I do not know whether he is jumping at it or is bowing to necessity, but he has not got in contact with the three pool organizations of the Western Provinces, and I would not accept the statement that the wheat growers of the West are satisfied with these amendments unless the representatives of the three Provinces in the two Chambers expressed their satisfaction. Of course, if the representatives of the three Western Provinces in this Chamber declare that they are satisfied, and that they speak for the wheat growers of their Provinces, that may be sufficient to carry the amendment.

Hon. Mr. GORDON: You speak of the wheat growers of the West. I suppose you mean the pool?

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I mean the farmers, because I do not believe there is any antagonism between the wheat growers of the West who are in the pool and those who are outside. Those who are not in the pool have continued doing business as heretofore, and are awaiting the experiment of the pool to decide whether or not they will come in. As I understand it, there are not two factions in the West. I believe that there is no rivalry between them, but that the non-pool farmers are looking with sympathy upon an experiment which may be a great success, and in which they may join.

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: Mr. Hoey, who is here representing the pool, consulted the members in another place, and had their consent.

Hon. Mr. MURPHY: Which members, may I inquire?

Hon. Mr. McMEANS: The Liberal members.

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: No, the farmer members, the Progressives of the other House, and he has given his approval to that amendment.

Hon. Mr. MURPHY: Does the honourable gentleman say that the gentleman to whom he has referred consulted with the farmer members?

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: From the three Western Provinces?

Hon. Mr. MURPHY: All the members from the three Western Provinces?

Hon. Mr. LAIRD.

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: I could not say that. He consulted a large number of them.

Hon. Mr. TURRIFF: There must have been a misunderstanding on the part of my honourable friend, because the gentleman he names as representing the farmers—I do not know whether he represents the farmers or not—is a pool man?

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: Yes.

Hon. Mr. TURRIFF: But he has no authority.

Hon. Mr. McMEANS: He is an official.

Hon. Mr. TURRIFF: He has no authority from the pool members in Alberta, Saskatchewan, or Manitoba, to accept these amendments, and could not accept them if he wanted to, and I doubt very much if he does.

Hon. Mr. WATSON: I was just going to remark, as Mr. Hoey's name was mentioned before six o'clock, that I happened to meet him in the dining-room to-night. I asked him if he had agreed, and he said: "No, certainly not. I have no authority to agree, and I am not going to get mixed up in this affair."

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: I met Mr. Hoey on the road to this Chamber since I had my dinner, and he told me he had no authority to speak for the pool, but, so far as he was concerned personally, he would accept the proposition, and that would be his advice to the pool.

Hon. Mr. MURPHY: I do not know what the procedure in this House may be, but it is customary, I think, in legislative assemblies to hear a statement of this kind from the honourable gentleman promoting the Bill. That occurred to me when the honourable gentleman from Regina (Hon. Mr. Laird) stated that he had not any knowledge on the subject, but that his information was thus and so. May I inquire from the promoter of the Bill whether the amendment in the form in which it is before the Committee is acceptable to those for whom the honourable gentleman has spoken, and spoken very well.

Hon. Mr. TANNER: May I ask for whom the honourable gentleman on the other side are speaking?

Hon. Mr. MURPHY: I am speaking for myself in my capacity as a member of this House.

Hon. Mr. McCORMICK: As a member from the East, I have tried to gather from the discussion that I have heard how I should act and vote on this matter. I gather that during the early years after the colonization of the