

*Inspection and Sale Act*

Mr. DUNNING: The difficulty with binder twine is when it comes too long, not when it comes too short. If the twine has been spun out too thinly it loses tensile strength. My experience has been that I would rather have it come short.

Mr. BENNETT: What a fuss the minister would make if he paid for 600 feet and got only 570 feet.

Mr. SENN: The better grades of binder twine do not lose their tensile strength in the same way as the cheaper grades.

Mr. DUNNING: Quite right.

Mr. SENN: An allowance of five per cent is worse in connection with the lower grades.

Mr. DUNNING: When you get a greater length than is stated on a ball of a cheaper grade of twine, you find the twine breaking every few minutes.

Mr. GARDINER: Since 1907 the section has read:

No deficiency in the number of feet of twine contained in any ball shall be deemed to be a contravention of this section unless the deficiency exceeds five per centum of the length indicated by the label.

If it is less than five per cent, it is not an offence.

Section agreed to.

Sections 11 and 12 agreed to.

On section 13—Name and address of packer or importer on every container.

Mr. BENNETT: Would the minister give us a little explanation of this part II, referring to salt. In my time the unit used to be a barrel weighing so much, but now the salt is put up in round paper containers with a patent outlet and usually marked with the weight. It is proposed that that practice will be continued in place of the old standard, but there is nothing that indicates any standard hereafter with respect to salt. There is nothing in section 18 and there is no standard unit any longer. This section means that any package containing salt shall have marked upon it the weight in the container. That is the way it strikes me.

Mr. GARDINER: That is my understanding of it. The old section read:

Every barrel of salt packed in bulk, sold or offered for sale, shall contain two hundred and eighty pounds of salt, and every barrel or sack of salt sold or offered for sale, shall have the correct gross weight thereof, and in the case of a barrel the net weight also, marked upon it in a plain and permanent manner.

[Mr. Bennett.]

The present section provides for the modern method of packing and selling salt in many different sizes and forms of containers. The old protection would be no protection at all.

Mr. BENNETT: Would it not be desirable to do away with the five per cent? If my memory serves me correctly, salt is now put up in containers of one or two or more pounds. These containers have a patent outlet in the end. I think the old provision of five per cent in connection with barrels should disappear. One can understand that the provision of five per cent in connection with a barrel of salt supposed to weigh 280 pounds might have some application, but with the present method of selling salt in these paper containers it occurs to me that a tare of five per cent is too large. There is no other commodity that I know of which is similarly packed and in connection with which there is a tolerance of as high as five per cent. It is not a case of there being a shrinkage in the weight with the present method of packing as the present packing is done in a most careful way.

Mr. DUNNING: It is a commodity that is presumably packed very dry.

Mr. BENNETT: If anything, it would gather weight. I am sure the minister is familiar with the patent containers and how the salt flows out in a dry manner.

Mr. DUNNING: If it does not flow, then it is heavier than it ought to be.

Mr. BENNETT: That is the point exactly. I should think that the old margin of tolerance which was applicable to barrels of salt that got knocked about and lost a certain amount of weight should no longer apply. Such a tolerance does not apply to any other commodity packed in a similar way.

Mr. GARDINER: In view of the fact that we are having the bill stand, I ask that this section stand. I do not think there is any provision in the old act for—

Mr. BENNETT: —any tolerance.

Mr. GARDINER: —any tolerance at all. Section stands.

On section 15—Markings on barrels and other containers.

Mr. STIRLING: Does this act set out to cover block salt such as is used by dairy farmers, that is, put out for the cows to lick?

Mr. GARDINER: Section 15 does not cover salt of that kind.