

*Marketing Act*

scheme which shall be made applicable. But localities may make whatever representations or reports they like to the minister, as a guide to what they think will best serve their interests.

Section agreed to.

Mr. DUPRE: Before we proceed I should like to move to amend paragraph (a) of section 4, which has already been adopted by this committee. The amendment is not very important; we simply add the words "to designate" in the second line and the words "or class" at the end of the paragraph. I therefore move:

To delete paragraph (a) of section 4 as adopted, and to substitute therefor the following:

(a) To regulate the time and place at which and to designate the agency through which the regulated product shall be marketed, to determine the manner of distribution and the quantity and quality, grade or class of the regulated product that shall be marketed by any person at any time, and to prohibit the marketing of any of the regulated product of any grade, quality or class.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I am in favour of that amendment. It means everything.

Mr. ELLIOTT: Could we learn what the effect of the amendment may be?

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): The clause as it was passed provides for regulating the time and place at which, and the agency through which, the regulated product shall be marketed, and the amendment is to make it read "designate" instead of "regulate" the agency. It was felt that as it stood it might be subject to misinterpretation. In the explanation I gave the other day the effect of it was as if the word "designate" had been used. Then the words "or class" have been added at the end to conform with the use of those words in an earlier part of the section.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): Is not the real fact of the case that the section of the act which gives the governor in council power to set up a board ought to give the power to set up a board which shall act as a selling agency, while the other clauses do not provide that the local board shall of themselves be the selling agency? Is not the purpose of this clause then to enable a local board to be designated as a selling agency?

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): No.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): Then I have misunderstood the purpose of the amendment. How can a local board become a selling agency?

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): The local board cannot become a selling agency but it can direct the channel through which the product shall be marketed. Personally I thought that the words "regulate the agency" would cover that, but after the explanation I gave the other day it was pointed out that it might be subject to misinterpretation, and that is why we have used the word "designate." Just as an individual would wish to bargain or negotiate with the different channels of trade as to how his product should be marketed, the same power is given here, only there is the added volume that would be brought to market under this scheme. But the selling board itself is not a marketing agency.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): Are we to take it then that there is no provision in this bill for a local board that will also be a selling agency? If so, this is going to be a disappointment to the producers. I do not understand this part of it at all. I would like the minister to let the committee know just how a local board controlling or regulating a product may undertake the selling of that product itself—let us say a local dairy board.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): The local board itself does not buy or sell but it does regulate the channel through which the product shall pass, and in that way it has control over the marketing agency. If they do not receive the same service through each channel of trade they can make different arrangements. It is just to deal with that point that this has been added.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): In that case, if the growers themselves set up a body or institution for the selling of the product the local board can then designate that body as its agency?

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): If it was felt to be to their advantage.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): It is a roundabout way, a very subtle and ingenious way of getting there, but I suppose it might be arranged.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): I must object to that, because I do not think there will be many cases where there will be a desire to set up a marketing agency of their own, rather than use the existing channels of trade which are engaged in the buying and selling.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): For instance, the grain exchange?

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): That might possibly be.