

of getting wheat forward before the close of navigation might equally well apply to oats or to barley that were sold for delivery on a certain ship sailing at a certain date. If they are all on the same basis why give a preference?

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: Except to this extent; my hon. friend will admit that oats are not a trans-oceanic shipment in the way that wheat is. Consequently oats are not so important for the export market, and if there is an exigency, as between the two, wheat should get the preference for a certain time for export. This clause merely gives the right to bring that matter closely to the attention of the railway board and they decide it. We cannot leave it to any better authority.

Mr. ROBB: My hon. friend will scarcely get me to admit that wheat is more important than oats, because we produce in this country double the quantity of oats than we do of wheat.

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: Yes, but in the case of wheat for the export market I think my hon. friend will admit my contention.

Mr. ROBB: No, I will not admit it.

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: I see, my hon. friend will not admit anything.

Section agreed to.

On section 15—powers of grain supervisors of Canada restricted:

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: I move that clause 15 be dropped. It is not necessary now because there is no longer any board of grain supervisors.

On section 16—Duration of Act:

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: To make the Act workable I beg to move to amend clause 16 by inserting after the word "shall" in the first line the words "come into force upon proclamation of the Governor in Council and shall;" and by substituting for the words "day immediately succeeding the day of prorogation of the next session of Parliament" the following words: "15th day of August, 1921."

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Is that amendment in view of the suggestion made the other day for my right hon. friend's consideration—to cover the possibility of the Government going to pieces during the course of next session?

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: Oh, no, we have not made any provision for an improbable calamity.

[Mr. Robb.]

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I think you are making it now.

Mr. FIELDING: How does the amended section read?

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: In this way:

This Act shall come into force upon proclamation of the Governor in Council and shall continue in force until the 15th day of August, 1921.

It is not to provide for any such calamity as was hinted at and hoped for by my hon. friend (Mr. Mackenzie King), but because the operations in the season's crop end about that time.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: It would be very wise to provide against both contingencies. Amendment agreed to.

Section as amended agreed to.

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: Before the Bill is reported I want to add a little to what I hinted at the other day, but was not able exactly to confirm. There will be a dividend of 50 per cent paid upon the participation certificates, on and after the 15th July, to be equal at least to 20 cents per bushel.

Mr. ROBB: Fifty per cent or 50 cents?

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: Fifty per cent.

Mr. FIELDING: Has any provision been made in case of wheat going below the stated price? Of course, if there is a surplus, wheat growers get it. But if there is a deficiency who pays the bill?

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: We discussed that matter this afternoon, but my hon. friend was not in the House. However, I will give him the information.

Mr. FIELDING: No, I can read it in Hansard.

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: All right.

Mr. JACOBS: I suppose there is no danger of the Government being charged with profiteering as a result of this announcement?

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: If am afraid to touch such a delicate subject.

Bill reported as amended, read the third time, and passed.

DOMINION FRANCHISE ACT.

Hon. HUGH GUTHRIE (Acting Solicitor General) moved the third reading of Bill No. 12 respecting the election of members of the House of Commons and the electoral franchise.