

Dr. MORRELL: Well, the clause as now written is one of the most useful sections in the present act. We have found it very useful indeed in preventing fraud in the treatment of cancer, diabetes, and goodness knows what all.

Hon. Mr. BURCHILL: But I mean the point Mr. Connolly raised about American publications.

Dr. MORRELL: We have one means of dealing with them: we can refuse entry of that article from the United States into Canada, if it comes from the United States, because it cannot be legally sold in Canada because it has been advertised illegally. So we can deal with the article itself.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: And that has been working all right?

Dr. MORRELL: That has been working, and has been used to prevent cancer cures that are being sold in the United States from being sold over here.

Mr. THOMPSON: May I ask a question. I saw an ad. last night: "We manufacture all kinds of articles for obesity." It did not say it would treat or prevent them, but it said "for obesity". Would that be deemed to be treatment? Could that be prevented by this section?

Dr. MORRELL: Yes, I think it would, sir.

Mr. THOMPSON: Well, how are they going to sell these abdominal supports? Just call them "abdominal supports"? Will that be all right?

Dr. MORRELL: Yes.

Mr. THOMPSON: But they should not say "obesity" at all.

Dr. MORRELL: No. There may be other reasons for using an abdominal support than for over-weight.

Mr. THOMPSON: Quite so, but they were appealing to the over-weight people.

Dr. MORRELL: Yes.

Mr. THOMPSON: But you think the use of the words "for obesity" would be an offence against this section?

Dr. MORRELL: Yes, I do.

The section was agreed to.

On section 4: prohibited sales of food:

Hon. Mr. HAIG: There were representations about paragraph (d).

Dr. MORRELL: There are, I think, several points to be brought out here. In some cases we will have a standard for food and the food will comply with that standard if it is followed by the name of the food. But there are a great many foods for which we will have no standards. In the past we have had to deal with a large number of foods for which no standard has been required, and they have contained such things as mineral oil, for example. It has been in salad dressings and olive oil; it has been in shortenings. It has no food value; it is not a food; it may have actual harmful effects if consumed in reasonable quantities; in fact, harmful effects have been reported in the American Medical Association Journal from people consuming unwittingly salad dressings with a large proportion of mineral oil in. That would be one example where we would be able to use this section in forbidding the sale of a food which contained mineral oil. We would also use this section for forbidding the sale of products that contained other things that were not harmful but which had no proper place in the product under consideration. They may not be foods at all in the proper sense of the word.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: And you want the clause in?

Dr. MORRELL: Very much so, yes, sir.