

*Agricultural Products Act*

So far as agriculture is concerned, Canada is confronted by a choice which will affect not only agriculture but the whole economy of this country. It concerns the method of marketing agricultural products. Our group believes that if we are to have a united and prosperous nation it is necessary for all sections of agriculture to be dealt with on an equal basis. For this reason we believe coarse grain should be included in the operations of the wheat board. By this means all those who are engaged in the feeding of livestock, both in the east and elsewhere, as well as those who feed poultry, will have access to supplies of feed grains at prices which their particular section of the agricultural industry can afford to pay. This cannot be done with any degree of continued stabilization unless it is done through a board that has the authority of law behind it. I think the Tories know that, and I am convinced some Liberals know it. I am sure the Minister of Agriculture knows it, no matter what he may say in his political speeches. The minister is intelligent and has a knowledge of agriculture, particularly in the grain-growing areas, and I am sure he is convinced of it.

**Mr. Gardiner:** Mr. Speaker, I should like to appeal to you once again to enforce the rules of the house. For some time the hon. member has been discussing a measure which does not even come under my department and has nothing to do with this resolution. He has been discussing the question whether oats and barley are to be put under the wheat board. This is an entirely different question, and there are two pieces of legislation under which that matter can properly be discussed. I submit that discussion should be limited to the measure that is before the house.

**Mr. Bentley:** I am discussing coarse grains, which are included in the operation of this particular bill.

**Mr. Ross (Souris):** On the point of order, I should like to ask you, Mr. Speaker, since my name has been mentioned in this debate, whether I shall have an opportunity of replying during the debate on this measure to the statements which have been made.

**Mr. Speaker:** I would ask the hon. members to confine their remarks to the measure which is before the house. If one member goes beyond the matter under consideration, another member will ask to have the same opportunity. I appeal to the members to keep to the motion.

**Mr. Bentley:** I want to abide by your decision, and I will, sir. On the point of order

I should like to draw to your attention the wording of the resolution:

That it is expedient to present a bill to amend the Agricultural Products Act to extend the operation of the act for a period of one year.

The Agricultural Products Act deals with all agricultural products, including feedstuff, except wheat. When I discuss coarse grains and their marketing, therefore, I do not think I am outside the bounds of this discussion.

**Mr. Gardiner:** On the point of order, if the debate is to be continued along the lines now being taken I should like to point out that I raised this question when this resolution was presented to the house some weeks ago. The resolution has been before the house for six weeks. During all that time it has not been discussed. The resolution has to do with the control of the marketing of farm products through agreements made with other countries. Under this act that is the method of control that is followed. It has nothing to do with putting coarse grains under the wheat board or anything of the kind; that is all provided for in other legislation which is before the house.

**Mr. Bentley:** I suppose one could discuss this point of order endlessly, but let me call attention to the fact that we have egg contracts; we have beef contracts with other countries, and we have cheese contracts. Not one of these agricultural products could be produced unless the animal first absorbed a quantity of coarse grains.

**Mr. Speaker:** May I call the attention of the house to the fact that the bill is not before us. The measure before the house is a resolution which reads as follows:

That it is expedient to present a bill to amend the Agricultural Products Act to extend the operation of the act for a period of one year.

The matter to be discussed is the principle of the resolution. When hon. members have the bill before them, they will note the contents of the bill and it may be proper at that time to discuss the various problems connected with it. At the moment I shall have to insist that members discuss the principle of the motion before the house.

**Mr. Bentley:** Mr. Speaker, have you given your ruling, or is the discussion still on the point of order?

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. members will understand that it is the duty of the Speaker to keep order and decorum. Order means that I should call the attention of members to the fact when their remarks are not relevant to the motion before the house. It is the duty of the Speaker to do this. I am sure I shall