

Hon. Mr. Bouffard: The same is true today.

Hon. Mr. Hugessen: I am not prepared to admit that there is any parallel between dealing in margarine and dealing in liquor. As the honourable senator from De Lorimier (Hon. Mr. Vien) pointed out a few minutes ago, the two operations are subject to completely different rules of interpretation.

Theoretically, that is the situation in which my constituents, the inhabitants of Hull and Gatineau Valley, will find themselves. Theoretically they will be exposed to these penalties. I say "theoretically" because I do not think that in practice very much of that will happen. What will happen will be this: you will pass this law and your law will be ignored and flouted by the population.

Hon. Mr. Haig: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Hugessen: The position will be the same as that in which this country to some extent, and more particularly the United States, found themselves in the days of prohibition when they attempted to enforce a law which was repugnant to great numbers of people.

Hon. Mr. Lacasse: Also the O.T.A., in Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Hugessen: I do not need to tell my honourable friends what were the results in the United States in that period, when it was the proper thing, the right thing, and the smart thing, to violate and evade the law. An outbreak of gangsterism and crime occurred which has continued from that day to this.

As the honourable senator from Ponteix (Hon. Mr. Marcotte) said this morning in relation to another bill, this is not a matter of money. Nor is it a matter of morals. It is something that affects the ordinary everyday life of thousands and thousands of our decent, honest Canadian fellow citizens, hard-working, law-abiding men and women who live within a few minutes' journey from this chamber. By this legislation you are going to turn them into law-breakers. I think that thought should make the Senate pause before it agrees to section 6.

With regard to the practical position, I do not know that I can support my honourable friend from Waterloo (Hon. Mr. Euler) in opposing the second reading of the bill. I would certainly not vote for it, but I would be willing to let the bill pass on division, on the assumption that when it goes to committee section 6 will be struck out.

Hon. Mr. Haig: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Lacasse: When would the bill be reported back?

Hon. Mr. Hugessen: To my honourable friends who have criticized sections 3, 4 and 5, I would point out that these clauses are no more than re-enactments of existing statutory provisions. They do not deal primarily with prohibition of interprovincial trade; they relate in the main to the prescribing and enforcement of standards. I do not particularly object to them. But, for the reasons I have given, I do most seriously and strongly object to section 6. I cannot believe that the other place, during the few minutes which it gave to this bill, or even members of the government, when they were considering it in the rush and hurry of the last days of the session, can have realized that practical results—what will happen if this section should pass into law.

Hon. Mr. Horner: What is left if section 6 is deleted?

Hon. Mr. Hugessen: All the provisions with regard to grading, marketing, and the rest, that are now in the Dairy Industry Act.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Reid the debate was adjourned.

DOMINION ELECTIONS BILL

SECOND READING

Hon. A. L. Beaubien moved the second reading of Bill 404, an Act to amend the Dominion Elections Act, 1938.

He said: Honourable senators, this is a short bill and does not require a lengthy explanation.

The first section makes a change in the ballot. The Chief Electoral Officer told me today that by folding the bill as I am now doing, and by putting the number on the counterfoil, an impression invariably is left on the face of the ballot. He said that as a result of this procedure over 400 ballots were thrown out at a recent election, although this did not affect the results of the election. Under the amendment each elector shall receive from the deputy returning officer a ballot paper. On the back of this ballot paper the deputy returning officer will have placed his initials so that when the ballot paper is folded they will be seen without unfolding the ballot paper.

Section 2 of the bill has to do with elections in the Northwest Territories. It will be remembered that earlier in the session we passed a bill having to do with the members to the Council of the Northwest Territories. Five of these members are to be appointed by the federal government and three are to be elected. The bill before us provides that the Chief Electoral Officer shall conduct the elections of the members to the Council of the