

few years, that is, a continuance in peace time of bureaucratic control of this country. Section 4 of the bill provides:

The board may, with the approval of the governor in council, employ such professional, technical or other officers, clerks and employees, as it may deem necessary for the conduct of its business.

There is control in a board independent of parliament except that it must report to the minister from time to time. Section 9, paragraph (a) reads:

(a) to prescribe from time to time, with the approval of the governor in council, prices at which the board may purchase agricultural products in the market.

Paragraph (d) provides that the board may have authority to purchase at such prices any agricultural products as meets the standard. Paragraph (c) provides:

To pay to the producers of an agricultural product directly or through such agent as the board may determine the difference between a price prescribed by the board with the approval of the governor in council for such product and the average price.

The three powers I have mentioned must be given to the board. Then the next paragraph states that the board may sell or "otherwise dispose of" any agricultural products purchased by the board. Why the necessity of empowering the board to give away if necessary the farm products that it has purchased? Why those words, "or otherwise dispose of"? The power that is given under this section permits the board unequivocally to dispose gratis of products that have been secured.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: It might burn them.

Mr. DIFENBAKER: I think that method of disposing of extra production is a thing of the past, although it prevailed in all parts of the world between 1930 and 1939. The next subsection reads:

To package, process, store, ship, transport, export or insure any agricultural product.

As a matter of fact what the hon. gentleman said is perfectly true. The board has power to do anything with these products. The statement of the hon. gentleman indicates the width and the amplitude of the board's powers. We have no idea as to how the provisions of this subsection are to be used. We have no indication of the philosophy behind it. Somebody recommended this, some departmental investigation has taken place in regard to this whole question, and I think we should know to what extent the government expects that this board will take over the processing, storage and packing industries of this country. We do not want a repetition of what took

place in connection with the rental of our terminal elevators to private companies during the war—government-owned elevators rented to private individuals and in them government wheat stored for the period of the war at a cost three or four times the total amount of the annual rental.

How does the government intend this board to operate? I realize that it is impossible to give every detail, but it is important that any board that is given the power to purchase up to \$200,000,000 worth of farm products and to dispose of them in any way, to store them and so on, must have some instructions as to how it will operate under this section.

Not only do we delegate power in that regard, but we delegate to the board the power to redelegate certain powers. Under section 9 (i) this board has the power to appoint commodity boards or other agents to undertake the purchase and the disposition of agricultural products. In other words there is a delegation of power by parliament to a board, with the power being given to that board to redelegate the powers that it has received. I have no objection to paragraph (j), which gives power to appoint a committee or committees to assist the board in an advisory capacity. I believe that is necessary, because it in no way implies the exercise of executive authority.

Then there is the section with regard to the price the farmer is to receive. Is there to be a system of participation certificates? When this board purchases from the farmer at a certain price and sells or otherwise disposes of the product at a profit, will that profit go to the farmer? The reason I ask that is that under section 9 (i) (c)—

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): I rise to a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I hesitate to interrupt my hon. friend but I want to direct attention to Beauchesne's Parliamentary Rules and Forms, second edition, paragraph 759, which reads:

On the motion for the second reading, it is out of order to discuss the clauses *seriatim*.

Mr. DIFENBAKER: Mr. Speaker, I am endeavouring to cite particular sections of the bill with a view to ascertaining what the philosophy is going to be in the operations of this board. To discuss the bill in detail is the only way in which I can show, as I am endeavouring to do, that too great power is being placed in the hands of too few without the necessary controls being imposed by parliament.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member knows, of course, that it is the principle of the bill that is discussed on the second reading and