

the end of the first month after the Bill received the Royal sanction; that then it would be in force for eleven months, but that at the end of that time it would be all off, and would not be needed. That is what I understood. I may be wrong.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: My honourable friend surmises from the reading of the clause that the need will disappear—that during twelve months certain things will come to pass which will make the legislation unnecessary?

Hon. Mr. ROSS: I do not surmise it from the clause; I surmise from the conversations and from all that I heard before the Committee that if you smooth out this matter for twelve months the situation will have solved itself owing to the very nature of it. There will be enough elevators built or acquired under this Act to settle the whole matter.

Hon. Mr. BELAND: Do I understand the honourable Leader to say that the Act would remain in force only twelve months after it had received the Royal sanction, or that it would remain in force twelve months after it is proclaimed?

Hon. W. B. ROSS: Yes, after proclamation.

Hon. Mr. GORDON: I could understand a provision of that nature if it affected a section similar to the one which I understand the honourable member from Regina (Hon. Mr. Laird) is going to bring in as an amendment after this; but when it relates to section 1 of the Bill I cannot understand why it should only remain in effect for one year.

Hon. Mr. McMEANS: It may never come into effect at all.

Hon. Mr. Gordon: That is just the point.

Hon. Mr. McMEANS: It is a very simple matter to me. This has been forced on the Senate in the dying days of the Session. We have never had the evidence printed, and anyone listening to this discussion would be very much mystified. The situation needs clearing up. If we say we will deal with this now for only a year we will be doing no harm one way or the other, and after that time or before the expiry of the year we may be in a better position to deal with the situation. I think my honourable friend will agree that the situation is rather a difficult one. I for one would like to read all the evidence before saying what conclusion I should come to. I think this is a wise provision. It cannot do any harm in the meantime, and will clear up the situation.

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE: But the evidence was not taken in writing.

Hon. Mr. McMEANS: I thought the shorthand reporters were there.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: No.

Hon. Mr. McMEANS: They were there for part of the time. Was not the evidence taken on the Rural Credits Bill?

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I tried to obtain the evidence of one of the principal witnesses in order to refresh my memory, and I was informed that only the Grain Commissioners had been reported.

Hon. Mr. McMEANS: In any event, the matter will probably be discussed thoroughly in the press throughout the country during the year, and probably a new Bill that will settle the question will come to us next Session.

Hon. Mr. MURPHY: The honourable gentleman is assuming that this would come into force and be in force for a year.

Hon. Mr. McMEANS: No.

Hon. Mr. MURPHY: I am glad to hear him say that, because this Bill is inert, it is without life and effect until a proclamation is issued, and if a proclamation is not issued the Bill is a dead letter.

Hon. Mr. McMEANS: Suppose this body in their wisdom decide to reject the Bill entirely, it would be inert?

Hon. Mr. MURPHY: Quite so. The effect is just the same.

Hon. Mr. TURRIFF: Through faulty hearing, or otherwise, I have not been able to understand the position we would be in if the amendment were carried. What I want to know is what would happen if the amendment were carried and the proclamation delayed a year.

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: The Bill would be dead.

Hon. Mr. TURRIFF: Would the Bill as passed last year be in force?

Hon. Mr. McMEANS: Yes.

Hon. Mr. TURRIFF: Then I am absolutely against accepting the amendment.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD: The honourable gentleman asked me a question. I would answer by simply stating that that was the specific wording which was suggested by the pool interest when they were approached with regard to this amendment. It is their wish.