

On subsection 5—technical and other officers and employees:

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: Does this subsection empower the board to engage outside assistance?

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: Yes. But I want the Committee to understand that the spirit and framework of the Bill are based on the local board. The central board, termed throughout the Bill the Board, is a small supervising general board, and it may delegate certain of its powers to the local board. Therefore I should think appointments would be, to an almost overwhelming extent, under the local board. It would be responsible for the handling of the scheme. The scheme itself is approved by the central board for the purpose of bringing about uniformity and giving the local board the benefit of its experience. I do not think the staff of the central board would be very large.

The CHAIRMAN: It was stated in another place that the central board would be made up of officials now in the employ of the Department of Agriculture.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: This subsection refers entirely to the central board, not to the local board?

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: Yes.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: I understand that the staff employed by the local board will be paid out of moneys voted by Parliament.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: No. My impression is that the expenses incurred by appointments would be met out of the charges made by the local board.

Hon. Mr. MOLLOY: Could there be many local boards within a province, or does the term apply to an area?

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: It might apply to the whole province or to the whole Dominion.

Hon. Mr. MOLLOY: In respect of one or two products?

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: In respect of one product. If the product were barley or oats, I fancy the local board would represent the Dominion. Let me illustrate by a simple case. Fruit growing in British Columbia is an industry in itself. I do not know of any single industry that would be more the apple of the eye of this proposed legislation, for attempts have been made already by provincial legislation to give some form of stabilization to the industry. We will

Hon. Mr. LITTLE.

assume the apple growers of British Columbia decide to come under this Bill. A number of them—and it must be such a number that the Minister will consider them representative of the whole industry—work out a plan, in which they define the area to be covered, probably the whole of British Columbia. They state also the basis or principle upon which the members of the local board shall be selected, and whether or not the local board is to have control of apples sent for consumption to the other provinces, as well as of apples exported. All particulars have to be set out in the scheme, and anything further is to be included that comes within the meaning of section 5. On receipt of the scheme the Minister considers, first, whether it is representative of the industry in British Columbia. If it is, and sufficient details have been given to fulfil the requirements of section 5, he submits these to his central board. This board, no doubt after a conference with the local body which desires the scheme, will make such modifications in it as may be considered desirable. If, on the Minister's recommendation, the scheme is adopted by the Governor in Council, then it becomes law, and the powers to carry it out are vested in the central board. The central board in turn, with the authority of the Governor in Council, can vest in the local board the whole or part of its powers as set out in section 4. The local board then goes ahead. The idea is to insure orderly marketing on the most favourable terms, and to maintain the high reputation of British Columbia apples. It will decide what is to be done with the product, and will see that provision is made for meeting the demand consistently, so that a market once obtained may not be lost because there are no goods to supply it. This, in a few words, is the explanation of the real purpose of the measure.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: Mr. Chairman, will the right honourable gentleman explain subsection 3, which provides for a poll?

The CHAIRMAN: Subsection 3 of what section?

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: Subsection 3 of section 5. I understood section 5 to be what the right honourable gentleman was explaining.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: It was.

The CHAIRMAN: We have not come to that; we are considering subsection 5 of section 3. Shall subsection 5 carry?

Subsection 5 was agreed to.

Subsection 6 was agreed to.