

Mr. ROBB: The commissioner points out that this clause was put in to meet his particular case, and that if to-morrow we were appointing a commissioner of patents he would not have the standing of a deputy minister.

Mr. STEVENS: My hon. friend has not caught my point. Section 5a is retained, and under it you cannot appoint to the position of Commissioner of Patents anyone who has not been a deputy minister of agriculture. That was all right as applying to the present incumbent in the office; there is no quarrel about that, but for future appointments a different provision must be made.

Mr. ROBB: I think clause 3 of this bill covers that point.

Mr. STEVENS: But you are retaining 5a. I do not advance this as my own opinion only; others who have given consideration to the matter have the same opinion—that this calls for the appointment of someone who has had experience as a deputy minister of agriculture. If we are perfectly sure of it, of course my objection falls, but I think we ought to be very sure before the bill is passed.

Mr. ROBB: The commissioner tells me that this has been worked out by the law officers. If in the future we appoint as Commissioner of Patents a man who has previously been deputy minister of agriculture, he comes under 5a; otherwise clause 3 covers the appointment.

Mr. GUTHRIE: With all due respect to the minister, it seems to me that if he retains clause 5a the inference is very strong that the next Commissioner of Patents must have been a deputy minister of agriculture.

Mr. ROBB: Oh, no.

Mr. GUTHRIE: I cannot see it in any other way. Is there any reason for retaining it? Of course if the minister wants to take the risk, we cannot do any more; we have pointed it out.

Bill, as amended, reported, read the third time and passed.

SALE AND INSPECTION OF FRUIT AND FRUIT CONTAINERS

Hon. W. R. MOTHERWELL (Minister of Agriculture) moved the third reading of Bill No. 11, to regulate the Sale and Inspection of Fruit and Fruit Containers.

Motion agreed to and bill read the third time and passed.

ANIMAL CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ACT AMENDMENT

House again in committee on Bill No. 115, to amend the Animal Contagious Diseases Act, Mr. Marcil in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN: The clauses have all been adopted. Shall I report this bill?

Mr. LEADER: Before the bill passes I would like to ask the minister if he thinks a sufficient amount has been provided in the estimates this year to take care of the necessary expenses under this act?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: The estimates are based on the assumption that this reduction in compensation will be made. Since the main estimate went through, a supplementary estimate for \$100,000 has been brought down for this purpose. I do not think it has yet gone through, but with this supplementary estimate, plus the reduction in compensation, we think we shall have enough to take care of the requirements this year fairly well.

Mr. LEADER: Is it the intention of the minister to withdraw the regulation that calls for at least ten pure-bred cattle before a breeder can participate in the accredited herd plan?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: That is a matter that has been discussed many times. It is a question of how few cattle we will send a man out to inspect at one time. If we reduce the present number of ten to, say, six, the man with only four cattle would think it should be reduced still further to four, and if that were done somebody else would want it reduced still further. There is a point at which it does not pay to send out an inspector, entailing all the necessary expenses, to examine a herd of cattle. Up to the present we have thought that in view of the expense ten was the minimum number we could send out a man to inspect. That is a matter of opinion. I do not feel very strongly on it, for I should like to meet the wishes of the man with the small herd, because after all the man that is starting right will be apt to stay right. There is a good deal to be said in favour of inspecting these smaller herds, but it is really a question of expense of administration. I should be very glad to discuss this matter with my hon. friend. I might point out that my recollection is that the regulation can be changed without any reference to the bill whatever.

Mr. LEADER: I realize that the minister wishes to do what is right in the matter, but according to the figures he gave the House