

tween the amendment moved by the leader of the opposition and that moved by the member for Athabaska.

Mr. GUTHRIE: I rise to a point of order. There are a number of members in this House who desire to get on with the business of the session, and while this may be very entertaining and instructive I would suggest that Your Honour start a school for the benefit of some hon. members. To keep this House waiting on a point already decided by precedent and the judgment of the House is too much of a waste of time.

Mr. SPEAKER: Exactly, but there are certain amenities of the House which must be observed. In order to satisfy the hon. member for Dauphin (Mr. Ward) I would explain that the amendment moved a moment ago by the leader of the opposition was perfectly in order because it was an abstract declaration of principle. In May, thirteenth edition, I find the following:

It is also competent to a member who desires to place on record any special reasons for not agreeing to the second reading of a bill,—

Or a third reading:

—to move, as an amendment to the question, a resolution declaratory of some principle adverse to, or differing from, the principles, policy, or provisions of the bill; or expressing opinions as to any circumstances connected with its introduction or prosecution;

The amendment of the hon. leader of the opposition was only an abstract declaration, while the present amendment is specific, mentioning a certain figure.

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

#### LONG TERM FARM LOANS

Hon. J. A. ROBB (Minister of Finance) moved the second reading of Bill No. 62, for the purpose of establishing in Canada a system of long term mortgage credit for farmers.

Motion agreed to and the House went into committee, Mr. Johnston in the chair.

Section 1 agreed to.

On section 2—Definitions.

Sir GEORGE PERLEY: I would like to ask whether this bill is in exactly the same form as the act that went through last session and if not, what changes have been made?

Mr. ROBB: I have not checked it carefully, but I am assured by the officers of the department that the bill is identical with the bill which left this chamber last session. I think I made that statement once before this session.

Mr. GUTHRIE: The Senate amendment is not included?

Mr. ROBB: No; the bill is exactly as it left this chamber last session.

Mr. ARTHURS: I presume the consent of the provinces interested is necessary to the operation of this bill, and therefore it is in the same category as various other bills dealt with this session. Has the minister any idea of how many provinces will come under the provisions of this bill?

Mr. ROBB: We have no information on that; we will pass the bill first and then find out.

Mr. ARTHURS: Has any effort been made to ascertain that information? •

Mr. ROBB: The proper method is to pass the bill and adopt the principle and then determine whether the provinces will come in.

Mr. KENNEDY: We have had some difficulty in the last few days because we could not hear what was being said, and I wish the ministers especially would speak a little louder. I have been doing my best to catch everything the Minister of Finance said but now I do not know what it was.

Mr. ROBB: Sometimes it is better not to know.

Mr. ARTHURS: I would like to have a little further information from the minister. What provinces, if any, have applied for legislation of this kind?

Mr. ROBB: This is a government measure, introduced by the federal government. When this bill is passed it will be time to inquire whether the provinces wish to take advantage of it.

Mr. ARTHURS: The measure cannot succeed without the acquiescence of the provinces; there is no question about that. I would suggest to the minister that it would be better to ask the provinces whether or not they will come under the provisions of the bill. This measure in itself is of no use unless the provinces do take advantage of it.

Mr. ROBB: How will the provinces know whether or not they desire to coöperate in such a measure until they find out what legislation we are going to submit to them?

Mr. ARTHURS: By consultation with the provinces.

Mr. GUTHRIE: There is a provision here for the provinces coming in. It is in clause 8 of the bill as we all know, and the minister will find he will get his bill through much