

extend from time to time the application of this act and the regulations made thereunder, to any matter and to every aspect of any matter within the scope of this act, notwithstanding the existence of any provincial law relating thereto.

I understand that this parliament has the right to appeal the laws passed by other legislatures but I think in the matter of agriculture all the provinces are cooperating together and I should like to know if the minister has in view certain provincial legislation which it might be considered should be overridden in order to make the application of this act more complete.

Mr. GUTHRIE: The provinces asked for legislation.

Mr. CASGRAIN: Did the provinces ask for that?

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): Yes.

Mr. CASGRAIN: They seem to give up certain power which they have.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): The act of last year stated that if the federal government did not pass legislation with reference to any of these matters, the province might do so. It may be that a province might pass legislation to deal with some of these insects, but the federal government would not be prevented from passing similar legislation to cover the whole dominion. This amendment is made in order to prevent the overriding referred to by the hon. member and to make cooperation possible.

Mr. CASGRAIN: Have any representations been made by the Department of Agriculture of Quebec?

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): There is a case in Quebec which this will cover.

Mr. CASGRAIN: They are agreeable to it?

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): Yes.

Section agreed to.

Bill reported, read the third time and passed.

LIVE STOCK AND PRODUCTS ACT

Hon. ROBERT WEIR (Minister of Agriculture) moved that the house go into committee on Bill No. 40, to amend the Live Stock and Live Stock Products Act.

Motion agreed to and the house went into committee, Mr. Gobeil in the chair.

On section 1—Definitions.

Mr. CASGRAIN: I do not know whether I am in order but this would seem to be a good opportunity to obtain some information with regard to certain export trade which was carried on in Montreal. I was told some time ago by people connected with the live stock industry that the government had paid a bonus or provided certain credits to a firm in Montreal which was exporting cattle to England. I do not know whether this was done under the provisions of the relief act. There was a gentleman, I think named Richardson, who was connected with a firm known as the Richelieu Company. This company purchased a large quantity of live stock in Ontario for which some farmers were paid while some were not. Apparently the government gave some money to this company to help it refit boats and make them suitable for cattle shipping. I have no accusations to make in this regard but as we are talking about the exporting of live stock, perhaps the minister could give us some information in connection with this venture.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): The act as it stood before this bill was introduced gave the power to fix the charges of live stock commission men and also the charges for the handling of stock or yardage at the stockyards. There was also the provision for a bond to protect the producer or whoever might be selling stock to these people. The act did not include an exporter or an exporter's agent as it is only recently that there has been any export trade of this kind. This amendment is to make possible the fixing of charges by and the bonding of an exporter or an exporter's agent in order to protect the people whose stock may be handled. In the case of the corporation to which the hon. member refers, it would have been possible to have the people bonded. I do not know the details of the matter, but the farmers who I understand have had a loss are following it up and are being given every assistance. It has been the policy of the government during the past three or four years to make certain that there would be space available for cattle intended for export, and to prevent any increase in the freight charges, in certain instances boats have been fitted up for the carrying of the cattle. My understanding however is that no subsidy was given to individuals outside of the steamship companies that fitted up the boats.

Mr. CASGRAIN: What is the name of the steamship company that fitted up the boats?