

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Last night I announced that the Grain Act would be brought on to-day.

Mr. MEIGHEN: But it was not printed.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: The sole motive of the government is to get the bill before the committee on Agriculture and Colonization at as early a date as possible, but if my right hon. friend or any hon. members feel that they would like a longer time to talk it over, we will not proceed with it to-day.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I would suggest—and I am not insisting on this—that the minister might make his statement in explanation of the bill and the various amendments—

Mr. LOW: I made a statement the other day.

Mr. MEIGHEN: But not a complete statement. There is the bill and it is voluminous.

Mr. LOW: It boils down to very few changes. There are not very many.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I do not think the minister explained it thoroughly. If he explained the purport of the measure, then it is not much of a measure to emanate from such an expensive commission. I would be prepared to go on with the discussion, but I object to having a decision on the second reading to-day, so far as my objection may be of any avail. I have no objection to the discussion, and I will take part in such a discussion myself.

Mr. LOW: We will let it go over if the hon. member desires.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I have only expressed my views.

Motion withdrawn.

#### INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES INVESTIGATION ACT, 1907, AMENDMENT

Hon. JAMES MURDOCK (Minister of Labour) moved the second reading of Bill No. 25, to amend the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act, 1907.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and the House went into committee thereon, Mr. Gordon in the chair.

On section 1—Disputes to which act shall apply.

Mr. MURDOCK: If hon. gentlemen will turn to the printed bill which is on their files they will find the explanatory notes opposite the proposed amendments. These

proposed amendments are matters that will of course be considered by the legal gentlemen in the House, the purpose of the measure being to endeavour to continue the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act, and make that act applicable at least to such industries and conditions of controversy in any industry that the federal government would have authority to deal with. These proposed amendments are the result of the decision of the Privy Council on January 20, last which appeared to make inoperative the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act as it had been heretofore handled. I think the explanatory note will give hon. gentlemen a full outline of the intent and purpose of the proposed amendment.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I may be dull, but I cannot understand the second sentence of the explanatory note. The explanatory note reads:

The purpose of this amendment is to limit the application of the act in terms to matters not within the legislative jurisdiction of any province.

That is quite clear. But the next sentence reads:

It is recognized, of course, that the enumerative provisions of the amendment are not technically necessary for this purpose.

What is meant by the “enumerative provisions”? Does that mean all the provisions?

Mr. LAPOINTE: It means that paragraph (i) of section 2A might have ended after the words “parliament of Canada”:

Any dispute in relation to employment upon or in connection with any work, undertaking or business which is within the legislative authority of the parliament of Canada.

The explanatory note means that the clause might have ended there, but that it has been thought advisable to insert in an enumerative manner the various subject paragraphs in order to make it clearer to those who are interested in the investigation and settlement of industrial disputes.

Mr. BAXTER: While I do not object to some of the enumerations, I think it would be much better if the paragraph had ended just where the minister indicates. To some of the enumerative paragraphs no possible exception can be taken, because the first four of them, at all events, are simply a repetition of the British North America Act, putting certain operations under the control of the federal parliament. Therefore, when you say that the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act shall apply to things that are under federal control, you have already said what is placed in paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (d). But