

whatever is being manufactured by the concern, presumably after retting. I say I speak subject to correction, but I am quite certain that is right. The hemp that goes into the manufacture of the finished product is the hemp that carries the bounty.

Mr. BEAUBIEN: Does the minister think that if the \$21,000 paid to this industry were cut off now the effect would be to put the industry out of business?

Mr. STEVENS: I would not say that, but it would be a violation of a contract between the country and the concern.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): Is the manufacture of hemp on the increase in Manitoba? Has this bounty helped the industry?

Mr. STEVENS: From the information before me I would say there is a substantial increase in Manitoba. In 1926 there was none. In 1927 the output was 162,004 pounds; 1928, 631,388; 1929, 632,654; 1930, 316,744; 1931, 1,193,070.

Mr. YOUNG: This hemp is all grown in Manitoba?

Mr. STEVENS: Yes.

Mr. YOUNG: And I suppose the acreage devoted to that prior to this act was devoted to something else?

Mr. STEVENS: I have no doubt of that, even if it was only prairie grass. I was very much interested some years ago in visiting one of the farms producing hemp. It was not a ministerial visit; I went there as a private member. I was told by those who were growing the hemp that one of the advantages from its production was its usefulness in cleaning up land that had been fouled by sow thistle and other noxious weeds. Hemp has an excellent effect in that respect. I understand that it is usually sown on land that has lost its chief virtue as wheat-growing land, but I speak with reservation on that point.

Mr. SANDERSON: The minister is not quite right when he says that all the hemp is grown in Manitoba; there is some in Ontario.

Mr. STEVENS: I did not say that.

Mr. SANDERSON: I beg the minister's pardon; I thought he did.

Mr. STEVENS: I was asked what hemp was grown in Manitoba and I answered that question.

Mr. SANDERSON: Hemp is grown in Ontario also.

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Mr. MOTHERWELL: I have much pleasure in supporting this vote, not because the previous government introduced it.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I do not know where the applause comes in. Anyhow, I have always endeavoured consistently to support what was right even on the part of this government. I have not that opportunity very often and I always embrace it when I have it. It was found during the war that owing to the great difficulty in securing raw material for binder twine we were in danger on the prairies of not having sufficient twine for our crops. Around Portage la Prairie the farmers conceived the idea of growing their own raw material and this was strongly supported by the then member for Portage la Prairie, now leader of the Senate. When the government that preceded this came into power we took up the question where our predecessors had left off, with the result that this bounty was introduced for the first time. It applies to parts of Quebec and Ontario and to the western provinces, and the object was to encourage the growing of raw material that goes into binder twine. In a country that had attained the importance we had of being the greatest exporter of hard wheat in the world, it was logical to aspire to the manufacture of binder twine with which to bind our wheat, and that was the purpose of this small bounty. It did not go as far as we had hoped, because the bounty was small; nevertheless something has been done. I have no qualms of conscience in supporting the minister in this small vote.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stirling): Shall the item carry?

Mr. SANDERSON: No; I move that the item be struck out.

Mr. CASGRAIN: I second the motion.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stirling): The hon. member cannot move to strike out the item. He has his recourse in voting against it.

Mr. DUFF: He can move to reduce it.

Mr. SANDERSON: I move that it be reduced to \$1.

Amendment negatived.

Mr. DONNELLY: Before the item carries—

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Stirling): The item was carried.

Mr. DONNELLY: I did not hear that the motion was carried.