

cil power to make such regulations as will land in jail the man who violates section 333B, if he does not pay his fine. I again object to this section, and I think, as my hon. friend (Mr. Devlin) said, that we had enough of this legislation by Order in Council during the war. Those were abnormal times, and in those times were willing to allow a great deal of latitude to the Governor in Council so that he might be able to do all sorts of things. But to-day the war is over, and we want to bring things back to normal as quickly as possible and that will not be brought about by continuing the same system as was continued during the war, namely, of curtailing the rights of Parliament and increasing the powers of the Governor in Council in regard to various matters. I want to register my protest against this provision. If sections 325 and 326 required to be remedied they should be remedied here. If the minister has discovered any flaws in the working of the Act, let him state them to the committee. We are asked to hand over all our powers to the minister and he will not tell us what changes he proposes to make by regulations, or what flaws have been discovered in the Act. Parliament is certainly entitled to know these things, and if the minister would give us an explanatory statement we should be able to judge whether it was necessary that he and his department should be the sole judges of what legislation ought to be passed concerning fruit growing, fruit packing and fruit shipping.

Mr. ROBB: In view of the opposition that has developed to this legislation not only from this side of the House, but from supporters to the ministry, may I suggest to the minister that it would expedite business if he would postpone further consideration of this Bill, and have it referred to the Select Standing Committee on Agriculture.

Mr. STACEY: Hon. members who have knowledge of the matter which is referred to in this clause of the Bill will readily realize the importance of some such step as is now proposed by the minister. I happen to know that the Dominion Government in conjunction with certain Provincial Governments is seeking to standardize containers of certain fruits which are produced in this Dominion. It is very essential that there should be uniformity throughout the entire country in this matter. It would be almost ludicrous, were it not so serious, to hear hon. members speaking of determining here in this House what shall be the size

of certain fruit containers. I venture to say that there is only a small number of men here in touch with the fruit business who are in a position to form any definite judgment upon these matters, even though they be the representatives of the people. If those who are directly engaged in the business throughout the various provinces can by co-ordination and co-operation with the Dominion authorities come to an unanimous conclusion regarding size of containers and other matters, that is the goal to be reached, and that I am satisfied is the purpose of this Bill. It is, from my point of view, entirely aside from the question to call this proposed legislation "legislation by Order in Council." The purpose of these amendments is to secure fair play for all, in the interests of the industry and in the interests of consumers. Hence the desire to secure uniformity. That is the object of the Bill, and I sincerely hope that it will carry.

Mr. SUTHERLAND: Notwithstanding the remarks which have just been made and the risk I may be incurring of being considered one of those who have no knowledge or experience in connection with this matter, I must say that I do not view with approval the clause which is now before the committee, authorizing the Governor in Council to fix the dimensions and capacity of all containers. We were told by the minister when the first clause was under consideration that a uniform container or barrel had been decided on for all Canada. That being the case, I do not see any reason why it should not be mentioned in the Bill. The minister has told us that these regulations are all published in the agricultural and horticultural press of the country, and that those who are interested in the business will familiarize themselves with the regulations which may be enacted. People under certain circumstances may possibly afford to go it blind, provided they have absolute confidence in the wisdom of such a policy, but under present conditions, and in connection with a measure of this kind, I do not think it is advisable or in the public interest to be continually changing the style or size of these containers. I think we ought to have a uniform package for fruits, and it should be mentioned in the Bill so that people would know whether or not they were violating one of the statutes of this country. To do these things by means of regulations which are not yet known is surely not in keeping with the form of government we have in this country. We are asked to pass legislation delegating certain powers to the Government,