

rules of the stock yard company. Everything is now operated under the control and rule of the stock yard company, and, so far, it is entirely satisfactory as far as I know. What I want to see—and what I am satisfied the people of the West want to see—is that the supervision of the stock yards and of the business of the stock yards shall be carried out by the Government, and that no part of that responsibility shall be delegated to an association of the commission buyers who are operating on that market. As a western man, I take alarm at that feature of the proposal. It is necessary for the proper working of the Bill, which I certainly consider very desirable, that there should be government supervision over and above the supervision of the owners of the stock yard—a dominant supervision to see that conditions are as they ought to be, and to see that those who desire to use the stock yards get an even deal, and to ensure that those who purport to buy and sell on commission shall be responsible men, duly licensed and under penalty if they fail in their obligations. That all, as I maintain, should be carried out under supervision, according to the terms of this Bill or some similar Bill. With regard to the provision that sets up those parties who are buying on commission as a separate authority, giving them control which should not be exercised except by the Government, I shall certainly have to hear from the minister very much more complete and satisfactory explanation than he has yet given us. I am entirely in sympathy with the purpose of the Bill, so far as it relates to government supervision of the yards and of the trade, and of those who are carrying on the trade, but I am absolutely against any delegation of authority to an association of men who are carrying on the trade.

Mr. J. E. ARMSTRONG: Would the hon. gentleman show us the section he is referring to when he says that the minister delegates certain powers to others?

Mr. OLIVER: If I understand correctly sections 3 and 4 provide for the constitution of a live stock exchange under authority from the minister, to provide its own by-laws and regulations. That is the provision to which I object.

Mr. R. B. BENNETT: What the hon. member for Edmonton has stated with respect to the matter generally is unquestionably correct, so far as the West is concerned. There is no argument about it, they simply feel there is a measure of sus-

picion attaching to any body of men who do business under the name of exchange. That is the story in a nutshell. Litigation took place in Manitoba in connection with the Winnipeg Grain Exchange under the Criminal Code, which resulted in the acquittal of one of the members, and subsequently resulted in legislation which changed the whole character of the operations of that exchange. That litigation has had such an effect on the public mind that the United Farmers and the Grain Growers have been endeavouring to establish exchanges for all kinds of agricultural products and commodities of their own. It is the word "exchange" that causes the trouble in this Bill.

Mr. OLIVER: Not that word only.

Mr. R. B. BENNETT: I think my hon. friend attaches perhaps a great deal of importance to the word "exchange" but on looking at the Bill carefully, he will find that the difficulties which arose in Manitoba, and which were the subject matter of litigations, have been provided for here by vesting a general authority in the minister, which did not exist in Manitoba. It was felt that they had there an Act of incorporation and a constitution that put them, as my hon. friend said, entirely beyond the law, and they arrogated to themselves the right to do what they pleased, when they pleased, and how they pleased, and do every other sort of business just as they pleased, which was detrimental to the interests of the community. The live stock exchanges, as I understand it, if we can eliminate our pre-conceived notions, are much sought after by the farmer, as well as by the dealer, using the very word "exchange" as indicating a body of certificated or licensed commission men, who will be able to maintain a certain general reputation for the institution and to see that the business is conducted in a decent and a proper manner. If that idea were lived up to instead of the idea that attaches by reason of the dealings in Manitoba in relation to other things we should not have so much trouble. The hon. member for Edmonton properly remarked that on account of the free entry of cattle into the United States considerable number of buyers from that country have come to Edmonton, Calgary and other points and I believe there has been a very general disposition on the part of all those interested in the live stock industry in those provinces to build these live stock yards, and the corollary of that, so they tell me, is some sort of exchange—not the sort