

think there is room for improvement there, although that was not the point I rose to discuss.

Mr. S. G. TOBIN (Wetaskiwin): Mr. Speaker, I am strongly in favour of the standardizing and grading of all our products. We are a producing country, and therefore we must standardize the grades of the products we have to sell. Very much good has come to the live stock and other industries by grading. At one time it was thought not to pay or be worth while to try to sell a good thing because it was said it would be submerged by something of inferior quality and probably lower priced; but now with a proper system of grading we know the quality of the goods we are buying. I am already on record in this matter, for in the local legislature of Alberta I moved a resolution in March, 1925, asking that this act be amended in some respects. I am still of that opinion. I would like to read part of the resolution:

That this legislature urges upon the Dominion government the necessity of amending the Live Stock and Live Stock Products Act so as to permit producers of eggs to sell to country stores in limited quantities without candling or grading, such eggs not to be for domestic consumption or for export until after they are candled or graded—

And so on. I was led to believe from certain circulars that these regulations were afterwards suspended; I think the retail associations sent out pamphlets stating that these regulations were suspended, and that was my understanding. I wish to say further that if the resolution before the House had been brought in under different circumstances and in a different way, I would have been inclined to support it. It could have been put on the order paper and brought up in the regular way, but instead we find it introduced as a want of confidence motion to prevent the government from going into supply, and I think the continuance of the government is much more important than this single matter. The government has a large programme of important legislation to put through, and I think it should be permitted to do so. But I do hope and believe that the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Motherwell) will make some amendments to these egg-grading regulations; I think the details are a little too many and too hard to understand. Away out in the country the farmers wish to sell a few eggs to the country store. The store itself is only a small place, possibly combined with a post office and the business would amount to only a few hundred dollars yearly. Under these conditions that man could not have a grader, or if he had one the grader would not know his business.

As I have already said I understood and still understand that these regulations were suspended, but I merely want to put myself properly on record in this connection, because I am already on record as being opposed to some of the provisions of this act. I want it understood that I cannot support this amendment, introduced as it is; it is a motion of want of confidence in the government which I am supporting, and as such I must vote against it.

Mr. G. G. COOTE (Macleod): I must admit that I do not know very much about the grading of eggs, but I do know that many people are greatly disappointed when they buy an egg and find that they have a chicken. That happened so often in the past that I have no doubt it was responsible for the desire on the part of the Department of Agriculture to institute some grading system for eggs. I regret that the rules of this House are so out of date that we must spend our time discussing this small matter while we have a committee on Agriculture which could deal very much better with this matter than can the full House. I am going to suggest to the Minister of Agriculture and to the mover of this amendment that they might agree to have this question referred to the committee on Agriculture, when the head of the Poultry division of this department might be called before the committee. In that way we might improve the regulations for the grading of eggs.

I sent to the library for the Live Stock and Live Stock Products Act, but now that I have it I find very little information about the grading of eggs; it is all covered by regulations made by the department. I am at a disadvantage in speaking on this subject, because I have not a copy of the regulations, and all I know about the different grades of eggs is what has been said to-day. From my limited knowledge of the subject I am inclined to believe, however, that our present grades are very misleading to the public. If that is the case it should be corrected, but I think the majority of the hon. members are in the same position; they are not very familiar with all the different grades of eggs enumerated in the regulations.

As I understand it the complaint to-day is that a farmer cannot take a few eggs to the market without having them graded; that at least is the complaint of the hon. member for North Waterloo (Mr. Euler). I have felt that there should be another grade of eggs included in the regulations, namely ungraded eggs. If anyone wants to sell his eggs on the local market or from house to house without grading them, and if the customers at the market or the people of the town want to buy them that way, I do not see why that should not be