

the Department of Agriculture under power given by an Act passed, I think, at the last session of Parliament, entitled, The Live Stock and Produce Act.

Mr. JOSEPH READ: That is this standard that I have read.

Mr. CRERAR. Yes.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: What are the regulations now in force passed by the Department of Agriculture in regard to the sale of eggs?

Mr. CRERAR: I could read them to the House. There are three pages.

Mr. JOSEPH READ: It would be well to have them on Hansard.

Mr. CRERAR: Shall I read them?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: These regulations have been published in the Gazette, and nobody in the House seems to know what they are. Publications in the Gazette do not reach many people. If they were placed on Hansard, we would be able to read them.

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: Place them on the Table.

Mr. BUREAU: Do the regulations in any way come in conflict with the legislation which existed in the Inspection and Sale Act with reference to eggs as to the weight per dozen?

Mr. CRERAR: I am informed not.

Mr. BUREAU: Does the hon. minister deem it necessary that we should repeal the former section of the Act, in order to give him a freer hand in the making of his regulations, and if so, why?

Mr. CRERAR: I have not followed the discussion, but does my hon. friend's question refer to this Act under consideration for amendment? Because these regulations have been promulgated under another Act altogether.

Mr. BUREAU: I understand that, but today we have the Bill before the committee. This Bill amends Section 339 of the Inspection and Sales Act, and that has reference to the weight of eggs. This is amended to make twelve eggs weigh a pound and a half. Not only is the existing section repealed in this Bill, but they take advantage of the Bill to repeal the section in the Inspection and Sales Act, doing away with all control whatever by this Parliament, or taking away from this Parliament the regulation which is there established as to the weight

[Mr. Crerar.]

of eggs. I want to know if the Minister of Agriculture suggested that, and if so, why?

Mr. CRERAR: The suggestion did not come from the Minister of Agriculture.

Mr. BUREAU: Then why does the Minister of Trade and Commerce desire to repeal Section 339 of the Inspection and Sales Act?

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: My hon. friend is in an asking mood to-day.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: My hon. friend is not in an informing mood.

Mr. BUREAU: We have to be in an asking mood if we want to obtain information.

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: I find in my notes that it is suggested by the department that Section 339 should be repealed, inasmuch as the regulation with reference to the grades, standard weights and colours of eggs, has been provided for in the legislation passed last year, under the Inspection and Sales Act, and the regulations have been promulgated since by the Department of Agriculture. On looking into the matter, I do not see any very great reason why Section 339 should be repealed, if the House wishes to retain it.

Mr. BUREAU: I think we should keep it.

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: No Prussianism is being introduced into the House. An Act of Parliament is passed by the consent of the House, and the repeal of an Act can only be accomplished by the consent of the House. The committee can determine whether it should be repealed or not. I looked over these regulations as they came to me, and I saw that they were very explicit, and that they provided, as I have said, for the different grades, the weights of the eggs, and all these other particulars that I have already explained to the House.

Mr. JOSEPH READ: You have got to repeal that section.

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: It does not appear to me that we require two pieces of legislation in regard to the grading and packing of eggs.

Mr. JOSEPH READ: If the Government is going to adopt the regulations which have been already adopted by the Canadian Produce Association—

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: The legislation I am proposing in this Bill does not adopt these. That matter is already settled by legislation on the statute-books.

Mr. JOSEPH READ: The minister will have to repeal the section in the former