

Hon. E. MICHENER: Honourable senators, the leader on this side of the House has moved an amendment which really constitutes the original amendment, leaving out all the parts of the Bill referring to non-farmers.

As I see it, the situation in Western Canada is this. The people in the towns and cities are in many cases much more in need of relief than the farmers. The merchants and others have carried the farmers during the bad years, and as a consequence many who did so are "broke." They have mortgages on their homes, and, in my judgment, are more in need of help through the adjustment of mortgages than are the farmers in those districts. In every section where farm lands have been badly hit, the towns and cities have been worse hit. Irrespective of whether this legislation is economically sound or not, I would rather vote against the whole Bill than against part of it. If we are going to make the Bill applicable to the farmer in the country, let us be fair and make it applicable also to the townspeople, who have borne the burden and heat of the day in helping the farmer along. Generally speaking, the farmer is in a better position than the man in the town, for the farmer can usually make a living, whereas the merchant is down and out.

For these reasons, while I am sorry to find myself opposed to my leader, I shall vote against the amendment.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: I should have added to the amendment:

That the necessary consequential amendments in numerations and alterations, whether in the clauses or not, be made.

The Hon. the CHAIRMAN: Is the amendment to be prepared in writing?

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: If the House will wait for me, I can finish it in a moment.

With permission of the House I will read the amendment again. I fear His Honour the Speaker could not easily follow my writing. I move:

That the said bill be not now read a third time, but that it be amended as follows:

By deleting—

(a) Page 5: lines 29 to 37, inclusive;

(b) Page 6—

Some Hon. SENATORS: Dispense.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: I will read the last part:

and by making consequential amendments in numerations and alterations, whether at the beginning of a clause or within it.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Honourable senators, my right honourable friend (Right Hon. Mr. Meighen) has expressed surprise that the

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN.

Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce failed to abide by the Senate's instructions to make further amendments to the Bill which was reported from the committee this afternoon. I did not closely read my right honourable friend's amendment which was the basis of those instructions, but I felt we should perhaps go back to the committee and give him a chance to recant. His view had been decidedly rejected by the committee this morning, and I was in hopes that if the committee reaffirmed itself in favour of the whole Bill, he would not insist upon mutilating it by the deletion of a large part. The committee did so reaffirm itself, and now my right honourable friend has come back—it is his privilege to do so—and asked the Senate to vote for something which has been rejected by the committee twice. With all due respect for the small majority which carried my right honourable friend's first amendment, I do not intend to abandon my position, and I challenge the amendment he has now moved.

The amendment of Right Hon. Mr. Meighen was agreed to on the following division:

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Hon. Mr. COPP: Honourable senators, I was paired with the honourable senator from Westmorland (Hon. Mr. Black), who left for home this afternoon. Had I voted, I should have voted against the amendment.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: The question, honourable members, is now on the third reading of the Bill as amended. Is it your pleasure, honourable senators, to pass the motion for third reading of the Bill as amended?

Some Hon. SENATORS: Carried.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: On division.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I am not moving the third reading of the Bill as amended.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: What is the motion, then?

An Hon. SENATOR: There is none.