

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): I agree entirely with what the hon. member has said. A good deal of consideration has been given to the possibility of grading what might be called domestic butter. Reports up to the present indicate that the quantities affected are not sufficiently large, and that the whole problem is too involved. That is one of the questions which has always received careful consideration, because I agree with the hon. member that we would have achieved a great gain if we could encourage the production of that class of butter.

Subsection 22 agreed to.

Subsections 23, 24 and 25 agreed to.

Section 2 agreed to.

On the preamble.

Mr. BROWN: Although the section has been passed I should like to refer to part 2, the new section 22. As the explanatory note says:

This subsection previously read "the grading of dairy produce intended for export." The words "intended for export" are omitted in order to provide by regulation for the grading of dairy produce for domestic consumption.

Of course we do not know what the regulations may be, but I should like to ask the minister to what extent it is intended to interfere with the selling of homemade butter by the farmer himself to the consumer. That is very common. Most of the butter handled by the local merchants is undoubtedly creamery butter, and as such is subject to grading, but very frequently the merchants will take in a small lot of dairy butter. That butter does not go on to the market; that is, it is not shipped out of that community but is passed on to local consumers. Will that butter be subjected to grading?

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): No.

Mr. BROWN: I am glad to hear that. It is only a small proportion of the total trade, and while I am heartily in favour of the principle of grading I think that small trading of that class should not be interfered with.

Preamble agreed to.

Bill reported, read the third time and passed.

#### DESTRUCTIVE INSECT AND PEST ACT

The house in committee on Bill No. 39, to amend the Destructive Insect and Pest Act—Mr. Weir (Melfort)—Mr. MacDonald (Cape Breton South) in the chair.

[Mr. Bouchard.]

On section 1—rights of provinces or of governor in council not affected.

Mr. CASGRAIN: This is a very lengthy section with several lines underlined. In the bill that has just passed the house we asked for a clause similar to what is contained here, "notwithstanding the generality of the terms of this act," but that was not allowed to be inserted. Very extensive powers are being given under this section. For instance, the power of the governor in council is to extend to any matter within the scope of this act, "notwithstanding the existence of any provincial law relating thereto." As I was not in the agriculture committee I would ask the minister to give us an explanation of this important section.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): We shall look forward to having the hon. member in the agriculture committee after the interest he has shown this afternoon.

Mr. CASGRAIN: I shall be very glad to assist you.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): The purpose of this section is to make clear certain questions that have arisen since the passing of the act last session. That is the sole purpose. It was thought that with the passing of the act last session, if the federal government undertook any control or passed any legislation with reference to anything coming within the purview of the act, the province could not deal with that particular problem in relation to their own particular difficulties, but that if the federal government had not passed the legislation the provinces would have been free to do so. There are certain cases where that did not work satisfactorily. In connection with the corn borer, for instance, the dominion government passed certain regulations with reference to the importation of corn from certain states in the United States, and under an interpretation of the act as it stood, it was thought that such action might prevent the province of Ontario from passing any legislation looking to the control of the corn borer or with reference to cultural methods or anything of that kind. Similarly with the grasshopper pest in the western provinces. It clears the bill of what might be considered a misunderstanding and makes it perfectly clear that a province is free to introduce any legislation it wishes so long as such legislation is not repugnant to the federal legislation.

Mr. CASGRAIN: The section states:—but the power of the governor in council shall nevertheless be construed as ample to