

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Until there is a finding that might be very undesirable.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Would not these orders be in the nature of a finding of the board?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: They might be regulations or they might be orders. Whatever is required is obtainable upon application to the secretary at Ottawa. It seems to me that the same practice is to be observed as is observed in all other public business.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Would not these orders be similar in their nature to the orders of the Railway Commission?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Yes.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Is there no way of obtaining those except by application to the secretary?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: That is all, except in the case of the publication of rates, or something of that kind. If it is a matter of public interest, it is to be presumed that the board would give it publicity.

Sections 18 to 20, inclusive, were agreed to.

On section 21—no prosecution other than by Attorney General except on written leave of Board:

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: In that case is it presumed that the board itself will direct the prosecution?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: The board will give instructions for a prosecution to be proceeded with.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Supposing there is a difference between the Attorney General of the province and the board as to instituting a prosecution, the board would take it upon themselves to prosecute? I do not quite see the object of that clause.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: The Attorney General might be importuned by some one who has not properly seized of the necessary information to start a prosecution. It is not desirable that a prosecution should be started except upon the written authority of the board. It is to be assumed that they have a more accurate knowledge than anybody else as to the advisability of a prosecution being made.

Section 21 was agreed to.

Sections 22 to 24 were agreed to.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK

The preamble and title were agreed to.

The Bill was reported.

On motion of Hon. Sir James Lougheed, the Bill was read the third time and passed.

BOARD OF COMMERCE BILL.

SECOND READING—CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE—THIRD READING.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED moved the second reading of Bill 166, an Act to constitute a Board of Commerce for Canada.

He said: Honourable gentlemen, this is a complement of the Bill which we have just considered. The object of this Bill is to constitute a Board of Commerce for the purpose of administering the Act which has just been before us. It sets out what shall be the jurisdiction of the board, and provides the machinery by which they may give force and effect to the legislation we are placing on the statute book in reference to this subject.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: The only protest that I have to make is that we are asked to consider this legislation in the very last days of the session.

Hon. Mr. CROSBY: But it is good legislation.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: I do not think it is fair to ask the House to consider legislation of this kind in this way; but we are placed in a position in which we cannot help ourselves.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: In answer to that, and without desiring to prolong the discussion, I may say that this is the outcome of a very lengthy investigation which has taken place by a special committee of the House of Commons and which has just been closed. The committee has finished its labours, with the result that this Bill is submitted to Parliament. If there has existed a public wrong in regard to the prices of food and other commodities, I can see no reason why we should not remedy it. This Bill has been just as carefully prepared as if its preparation had taken six months.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the second time.

On motion of Hon. Sir James Lougheed, the Senate went into committee on the Bill. Hon. Mr. Smith in the Chair.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: I would ask that Mr. O'Connor be permitted to come within the bar.