

Prairie Grain Stabilization Act

positions they hold. I say that without referring otherwise to citation 147. I hope that as much as possible hon. members will refer to the constituencies of their colleagues or to the positions they hold in this House.

Mr. Alexander: Mr. Speaker, I think the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Mahoney) should resign.

Mr. Woolliams: After the election he will wish he had.

Mr. Downey: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate your attempts to get the minister's attention. We want him to get the benefit of some of our counselling.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

An hon. Member: Listen, Otto.

Mr. Downey: Mr. Speaker, I read section 2(2) of the act I have been referring to. It provides:

In prescribing a percentage of the base price of an agricultural commodity under paragraph (a) or (b) . . . the Governor in Council shall be guided by the estimated average cost of production of the commodity, and such other factors as the Governor in Council considers to be relevant.

Here we have a stabilization act that is far more complete than the bill we are now considering. With a few simple amendments it could improve the entire agricultural picture in this country. It is no longer the aim of my party to save this government from itself.

Mr. Mahoney: Some aim.

Mr. Downey: We are tired of saving it from itself. We did that last year for the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Olson) when he was piloting through the marketing bill. We prevented his making a fool of himself, as it were, in front of the farmers and people of Canada. I say, let us bring this bill to a vote.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. McBride: Now you are with us.

Mr. Downey: Let the people find out what this government is trying to do to them. Let them judge the government when election time comes again.

Mr. E. B. Osler (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Orlikow: Now here speaks a real farmer, I suppose.

Mr. Osler: Thank you. It is amazing; every time I have risen to speak—

An hon. Member: The hon. member says nothing.

Mr. Osler: —in the past 2½ years the obvious has been repeated to me. People keep saying, "There's a man who is not a farmer, there's a man who is not a farmer." You would think they would have something new to say. I do not know how many times I have told hon. members, "I am not a farmer," but they do not seem to get the message.

Mr. Orlikow: The hon. member does not look like a farmer.

[The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel).]

Mr. Osler: I am not one. Farmers are not the only ones who think, and people who are not farmers are sometimes able to speak for farmers. Many whom I have heard today are certainly not farmers; and if they claim to be farmers I do not think any farmer would recognize them as such. I know many farmers and they certainly do not behave the way some people behave. Most farmers are doers.

An hon. Member: Are what?

Mr. Osler: Doers. Most farmers are doers. Most farmers are interested in getting things done.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

An hon. Member: Not if they are in the NDP.

Mr. Osler: I suppose even NDP farmers like to get things done, because they like to eat as do other farmers.

An hon. Member: What about Conservative farmers; are they different?

Mr. Osler: Conservative farmers certainly like to eat, but they do not eat as well as Liberal farmers because they use the methods of 50 years ago.

Mr. Alexander: Maybe they are honest.

Mr. Osler: Without carrying on in this vein any longer, may I say this. I really have one small message. We are speaking on an amendment to an amendment. This is big stuff. We could talk for 50 years on this subject. We could talk for two more or for six more weeks. Although this is supposed to be a government headed by a dictator, it is obvious that we will have to talk for 50 years if the opposition has no new light to throw on the subject. Out of one corner of their mouths they allege we are governed by a dictator, and out of the other corner they say the government cannot get something through Parliament when it is confronted with an absolutely nonsensical, non-thinking filibuster.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Osler: We have various points of view in this House. That is why, probably, we have four parties represented here, with a couple of mavericks who have no party. That is honest.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Borrie: That did not mean you, Stanley.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Is the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) rising on behalf of the Speaker?

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Since the present occupant of the chair is one of the members of this House who does not belong to any party, I do not like the reference that was made to Your Honour by the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre (Mr. Osler).

Mr. Osler: Mr. Speaker, as usual, quality shows. The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles),