

put on simply to keep in the country for the use of Canadian farmers what was valuable in this feeding stuff. I think the purpose of the Bill is entirely worthy, although when we come to consider it clause by clause it might be improved in some respects. I wish again to commend the minister for introducing this legislation.

Mr. KAY: I am in entire sympathy with the purpose of this legislation and I must congratulate the minister on having wrested it from the designs of the President of the Privy Council. I am very much disappointed, however, to find that the minister intends to allow the use of screenings, which my hon. friend the leader of the Progressive party, the hon. member for Marquette, has just been discussing. I am very strongly of the opinion that these screenings should not be allowed to be mixed in any way with commercial feed of any kind. It is well known that the vitality of these noxious weeds cannot be entirely destroyed and the farmers in the East are unconsciously polluting their farms with these very bad weeds to the great detriment of agriculture. It is perhaps true that there is a certain amount of feed value in some of the weeds, but it is also true that some of them are poisonous and have killed many head of young livestock. I would urge upon the minister very seriously the advisability of prohibiting the inclusion of any of these screenings in commercial feeding stuffs. If there is a market in the United States for these screenings, by all means let them be exported to that country. With this one criticism I think the Bill is a very good one, and I trust the minister will be successful in passing it. We will be able to consider it more in detail when we are in committee on the Bill.

Mr. SUTHERLAND: I am very pleased to find that the Act regulating commercial feeding stuffs will come under the control of the Department of Agriculture. For many years past this Bill has been, first, under the Department of Inland Revenue, then under the Department of Trade and Commerce, and next under the Department of Health. I think every one will agree, however, that a law of this nature should be under the Department of Agriculture, which has quite a number of well-trained men who are familiar with and competent to deal with questions regarding commercial feeding stuffs. Some hon. members may recollect that at the last session of Parliament we succeeded in putting on the statute books a Bill which endeavoured to regulate some of these feeding stuffs,

particularly bran and shorts. I am a little surprised to find that in the various Bills that have been introduced this session dealing with these matters the legislation of last session has entirely faded away. It has gradually disappeared without anybody taking any particular notice of it, and I believe that to-day it is absolutely destroyed as to its intentions.

I am disappointed in the present Bill. I believe that it will result in a continuance of the conditions that exist at the present time, which enable the mixing of what ought to be pure commercial feeding stuffs with the offal screenings that accumulate at mills and elevators. There is undoubtedly an immense quantity of these screenings accumulating, and a very large proportion of them should be destroyed at those points and never be permitted to pass out of the control of the Grain Board. Neglect of this in the past has resulted in untold damage to agriculture in this country.

I was a little surprised at the remarks of the hon. member for Marquette (Mr. Crerar) in alluding to the conditions that existed in 1917 when an embargo was placed on the exportation of screenings to the United States. I am a little surprised that such an ardent free trader as he is would favour an embargo on anything that we produce in this country, particularly a commodity of this nature. The excuse has been made in Parliament on a number of occasions that very little damage was being done to the farmers of this country by reason of the fact that these screenings were being exported to the United States. It is well known that immense quantities were exported to the United States for many years and were fed at the stock-yards at Minneapolis and many other places to which immense numbers of sheep were shipped from the ranges to be fed in the yards at those points on these screenings. Consequently these noxious weed seeds were not distributed throughout this country. But we have to-day professional mixers of commercial feeding stuffs utilizing these screenings, and there are companies placing stuff on the market to-day that should never be permitted to reach the farms or feeders of live stock of this country. I have no doubt that some of the provisions that will be found in the Bill will take care of some of these companies. I would be much better satisfied, however if the Bill was a little more clear and definite than this resolution, and did not leave so much to regulations to be made by the minister. I can see no reason why bran and shorts particularly