

Farm Products Marketing Agencies Bill

Mr. Mackasey: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member knows that no collective agreement is so carefully drafted that there are not cases sent to arbitration. This is the situation here, and I have full confidence that the unions are quite capable of looking after themselves in this particular dispute.

HEALTH AND WELFARE**REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON QUARANTINING OF "ORONSAY"**

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Would the minister seize the first opportunity to advise the House, by statement or otherwise, of all the facts surrounding the P & O Steamship *Oronsay* which was quarantined in Vancouver and the relationship of this matter to his department? In doing so would he refer to the question I have on the Order Paper, which is unanswered, having in mind the allegations made?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I made note of the hon. member's reference to his question of April 7 not having been answered. I expect the answer to be forwarded within the next couple of days, and if the hon. member finds that answer insufficient he can let us know.

Mr. Baldwin: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his answer. Would he also take this opportunity to deal with all the facts surrounding this vessel, the quarantine enforced in respect of typhoid and the relationship of officers in his department which have been the subject of some discussion?

Mr. Munro: I am prepared to go into that subject in as much detail as possible in answer to the hon. member's question.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

• (3:10 p.m.)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS**FARM PRODUCTS MARKETING AGENCIES BILL****ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL MARKETING COUNCIL AND AGENCIES**

The House resumed from Tuesday, April 14, consideration of the motion of Mr. Olson that Bill C-197, to establish the National

[Mr. Orlikow.]

Farm Products Marketing Council and to authorize the establishment of national marketing agencies for farm products, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Agriculture.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I wish to rise on a point of order. There were some discussions earlier today concerning debate on this bill and it was pointed out that the hon. member for Kent-Essex (Mr. Danforth), who is the official spokesman for the official opposition, had not had an opportunity to participate in the debate. I think there might be agreement in the House to enable him to do so.

Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent-Essex): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I should like to begin by expressing my sincere thanks and appreciation for the courtesy that has been extended to me by the various parties of this House in allowing me to proceed with the criticism of the bill. The necessity for this procedure arises because the hon. member for Mackenzie (Mr. Korchinski), who began his speech the other night, is ill and unable to complete a very commendable statement on this subject.

In dealing with Bill C-197, which is a bill to institute in Canada a national farm products marketing council and national marketing agencies for farm products, we are dealing with what I consider to be one of the most important pieces of legislation to be brought forward with regard to agriculture in the current session. I say this because of the fact that should this legislation be passed in its present form or even in an amended form, no section of agriculture in Canada or, in fact, any allied business will remain unaffected to a large degree.

The minister in his introductory remarks indicated quite correctly that legislation along this line has been sought for a number of years. Various farm commodity groups, marketing agencies and farmers in general, have been asking the federal government for this type of legislation. I think they were justified in doing so because it has been the experience of the administrators of marketing agencies on a provincial level that often great advances have been made in stabilizing the prices which the primary producers were receiving for their commodities and at the same time creating stability in the marketing of these very products. All too often it has been our experience that whenever there were inter-provincial or international move-