

that no marketing scheme would be put into operation until it had been ratified by Parliament. The right honourable leader states that since our sessions last only about five months each year it is not always so easy to obtain the opinion of Parliament in this country as it is in Great Britain, where the sessions are usually of nine or ten months' duration. And he fears that the problems of British Columbia, for instance, might not be understood by people from the East. I submit that we need the support and sanction of Parliament in order to insure the successful operation of this new venture. If in the next few years the law works to the satisfaction of all, including the minorities who at present may be in opposition to it, parliamentary approval may become a perfunctory matter. But I am convinced that more ground will be gained at the outset if we follow the practice adopted under the British Act of 1931, requiring that before any scheme under that Act can become operative it shall be approved by Parliament. My amendment is seconded by the honourable senator from De Lanaudière (Hon. Mr. Casgrain).

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: As I have already expressed myself on this matter, I will not make any extended remarks at this time. But I do not wish to be discourteous to the honourable gentleman by failing to make any reply to his argument. For reasons already given I consider that the amendment is merely negative and that it would render the whole Bill utterly nugatory and futile.

The amendment of Hon. Mr. Dandurand was negatived.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: The question is now on the third reading of the Bill.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: I desire to point out to the right honourable gentleman that when the Bill was in Committee last Friday he promised the House certain information on two or three matters. I think we are entitled to that information.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: I am very glad that the honourable gentleman has mentioned the point. I had it in mind two or three times this evening.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: Before the right honourable gentleman proceeds, may I refer to a statement made last Friday by the Chairman of the Committee, and not noticed by me until I read it in Hansard. He said it had been stated in another place—which I presume meant the other House of Parliament—that the central board would be composed of officials of the Department of

Agriculture. I should like to ask the right honourable leader if he has any information in that connection.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: The honourable Chairman of the Committee (Hon. Mr. Black) understood that from the talk he had with the Minister.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: It was not stated in Parliament?

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: No. I am disposed to think he meant the salaried officials would be the present officers. I do not think he meant there would be nobody else associated with the central board.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: As members of the board?

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: He may have meant that, but I do not understand so.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: When the right honourable gentleman says "officers," does he mean officials or members?

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: Officials.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: Here is the statement:

The Chairman: It was stated in another place that the central board would be made up of officials now in the employ of the Department of Agriculture.

Hon. Mr. BLACK: I have nothing to add to or retract from that statement. "Another place" does not necessarily mean another Chamber of Parliament. In answer to a question whether it would be necessary to have a large number of officials, the Minister stated that in his opinion there were a sufficient number in the department now to carry on the central board.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: I am not sure whether he meant to carry on the work of the board as officials or as members.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: That is a very important point.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: It is important in the administration, but it does not really affect the merits of the Bill.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: It affects the cost of administration.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: But not the principle of the Bill—which is no good.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: I hope they will be able to carry on with the present officials, but I cannot give an undertaking to that effect.