

*Time's* article is to the effect that the wheat agreement between Canada and Great Britain cannot be or is not being entered into at this time because of the antagonism of the United States. The article in *Time* says:

Canada's family ties with Britain and her neighbourly ties with the U.S.A. were strained last week. The irritant was wheat, which Canada and the U.S.A. have to sell and Britain wants to buy.

It goes on to speak of the visit here of Britain's Food Minister John Strachey and says that he was ready to sign an agreement but:

At this point the U.S.A. stuck its neighbourly nose into the deal . . .

And prevented an agreement being arrived at.

Furthermore, the state department warned that the British loan, still awaiting U.S.A. approval would be endangered.

That article, I think, requires an answer from the minister. The Minister of Agriculture, during the course of his recent trip through western Canada, has spoken of the wheat agreement as though it were an accomplished fact. Is that agreement being held up because of any interference or criticism from the United States as set forth in *Time's* article.

Mr. MacKINNON: The hon. member's question is clearly out of order but, since it is now on *Hansard*, I should like to reply briefly. I am interested in his comments. After his visit to Bermuda, I am glad that we shall have his cooperation and assistance in developing trade with these friendly sister countries, shall I call them, in the Atlantic. The department in every way is pressing for increased mutual trade with these countries.

I have already made two statements on the wheat negotiations, one of them to-day. If there is any truth in the article from which the hon. member has just quoted I can only say that I know nothing of it. The reason why the wheat negotiations are not proceeding at the present time is that it suited the experts of each government and the members of the governments themselves to postpone the discussions for the time being.

Section agreed to.

On section 2—Definitions.

Mr. GREEN: Would the minister explain the new subsection 2 of section 2? It says:

For the purposes of this act a sale of goods to a buyer who intends to export them shall be deemed to be an export and the seller shall be deemed to be an exporter.

Does that apply to a sale to another firm in Canada or only to a foreign firm which takes over responsibility for the goods in Canada? It is not clear to me.

Mr. MacKINNON: It applies only to a foreign firm.

Mr. GREEN: The section does not make any restriction of that kind. It says "a sale of goods to a buyer", which is broad enough to cover any buyer, Canadian or foreign.

Mr. MacKINNON: I can see where the hon. member may have some reason for doubting the exact meaning, but the intention is that the clause applies only to a foreign buyer.

Mr. JACKMAN: The definition of "person" does not include a corporation, although it includes any association. Further on in the act, in section 11 it is provided in paragraph (b), line 9, on page 5 of the bill, that the governor in council may:

(b) make a loan to the government or any agency of the government of any such other country to enable such government or such agency or any person ordinarily resident in such other country to pay the cost of Canadian-produced goods purchased from an exporter or the cost of Canadian services.

Should "corporation" not be included, or does the word "association" embrace a corporation for the purposes of this bill?

Mr. MacKINNON: I am advised that under the Interpretation Act the word "person" includes a corporation.

Mr. JACKMAN: This bill has its own interpretation clause, and definitely says that "person" includes any association or partnership. Whether the definition of "person" in the Interpretation Act overrides that definition, I do not know. It would seem to me it was specific rather than exclusive. If the minister says otherwise, I am quite content.

Section agreed to.

On section 4—Board of Directors.

Mr. STEWART (Winnipeg North): Who are the directors of the corporation?

Mr. MacKINNON: M. W. Mackenzie, Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce, chairman; W. C. Clark, Deputy Minister of Finance; J. A. Chapdelaine, Department of External Affairs; G. F. Towers, Governor of the Bank of Canada; H. T. Aitken, Chief Executive Officer.

Mr. STEWART (Winnipeg North): What fees are paid?

Mr. MacKINNON: No fees whatever.

Section agreed to.