

Vancouver Harbour

300 and 400 bushels. I myself am a patron of this company, and while I am not particularly complaining of the brand of grain I have received from these elevators, knowing it to be more or less a local product, yet I have wondered whether, in the broad sense of the act, the initial elevators throughout the country that make a business of supplying seed to farmers should not come under the provisions of the act as dealers.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I take it that seed supplied by these elevators is what is called commercial seed. I cannot imagine the seed growing in the district my hon. friend refers to, cleaned with the average machinery that we find in elevators, being such as would come under the provisions of this legislation. If they advertise their seed to be of certain standards and it is not, then they violate the act.

Mr. SENN: The resolution calls for a regulation of the importation of seed. Is there any provision in the bill that the place of origin shall be stated? The value of the seed depends on where it is grown. Alfalfa seeds grown in southern countries would be of little use to us in Canada because the varieties are not hardy enough, and I think it would be well for the minister to provide in the bill that the place where the seed comes from shall be stated.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: There will be a provision to that effect. One of the things that gives Canada its good reputation for seed grain is its northern location, and the bill makes provision for that not only with respect to home grown grain but with regard to imports as well.

Mr. GOULD: There is a clause with regard to a time limit for complaints. Has the minister in mind any specific time within which complaints shall be registered against any defaulting seed firm?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: There is a time limit, but I do not recall having seen it in the draft. A farmer might not know until after harvest whether he had been sold grain of the wrong grade; and, in fact, in the case of grass seeds, he might not know for a couple of years. This is important and I shall make a note of it.

Mr. STEEDSMAN: In the cases of vegetable seeds sold in packages of less than a pound, will the weight of the package be indicated on the package itself?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Seeds, like any other grain, are sold by weight, and if the package does not come up to weight require-

[Mr. Gould.]

ments, of course the usual action will hold. There is no recognized container for seeds except very small parcels. Seeds are usually put up in sacks which are very often marked, although at times the weight is not indicated. The principal thing is the variety and quality of the seed.

Mr. STEEDSMAN: I was referring particularly to seeds sold in packages of less than a pound.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: There is a provision with respect to packages of less than a pound. There is also a provision with regard to garden seeds. I do not know of any law that determines all the things we should know with respect to the seed packages we get from these seed houses, but I shall take a note of this point and look into it.

Mr. BROWN: The seed houses disclaim any responsibility in regard to seed that does not come true to description. Is that taken into account?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: They must be responsible for the variety.

Mr. BROWN: But they disclaim this responsibility in their advertisements.

Resolution reported, read the second time and concurred in. Mr. Motherwell thereupon moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 12, respecting the testing, inspection and sale of seed.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

VANCOUVER HARBOUR.

Hon. ERNEST LAPOINTE (Minister of Marine and Fisheries) moved that the House go into committee to consider the following proposed resolution:

Resolved, That it is expedient to provide,—

1. That the Governor in Council may, from time to time, advance and pay to the Corporation of the Vancouver Harbour Commissioners, hereinafter called "the Corporation," such sums of money, not exceeding in the whole the sum of five million dollars, as are required to enable the Corporation to carry on the construction of such terminal facilities as are necessary to properly equip the Port of Vancouver.

2. That during the period of construction of the terminal facilities mentioned in these Resolutions the interest payable on the debentures receivable by the Minister of Finance in exchange for such advances shall be deemed to be money required to construct and to be part of the cost of construction of the said terminal facilities, and such interest may be paid out of the said sum of five million dollars.

3. That the Corporation shall submit to the Minister of Marine and Fisheries for approval, monthly applications for such advances, with statements showing total expenditure on different items in detail, and upon approval, authority for the payment of the amount applied for may be granted by the Governor in Council.