

connection with the Human Society, and its work for the protection of dumb animals, I think he is entitled to be highly commended, although he may not have arrived, from his point of view, at the same stage of advancement on this question as the hon. gentleman from London apparently has done. I feel it is due to one who has done good service to the people of the city of Toronto in particular and to the province of Ontario, to say this with reference to Deputy Chief Archibald. I am very glad the Bill has been introduced, and glad to hear also that it is likely to become law in some modified form, if not as it stands now.

Hon. Mr. COMEAU—I was going to move the adjournment of the debate.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—The hon. gentleman can discuss it in committee just as well.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—If the hon. gentleman is not ready to go on to-night, why should he be snuffed out?

Hon. Mr. COMEAU—I am content to let it go to the Committee of the Whole.

Hon. Mr. SULLIVAN—There are several members who would like to discuss the question.

Hon. Mr. POWER—If the hon. gentleman wishes to move the adjournment of the debate he has a perfect right to do so.

The SPEAKER—The hon. gentleman has declared that he is content to let it go to the Committee of the Whole.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—Because he has been snuffed out.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—That is a very improper remark.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the second time.

MANITOBA GRAIN ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

SECOND READING.

Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT moved the second reading of Bill (ZZ) An Act to amend the Manitoba Grain Act.

He said: The House is no doubt aware that a royal commission was created some two years ago for the purpose of looking into the working of the existing Grain Act and suggesting any amendments there-

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to that might appear desirable. These commissioners have been sitting for a very considerable time in Manitoba, and in the western section, also in the eastern parts of Canada, and have paid a visit to England, and made a very careful inquiry there as to the mode in which the trade and commerce in grain was being conducted there. Subsequently to their having prepared their report, which was submitted to the House and no doubt is in the hands of hon. gentlemen, a meeting was held, at which several hon. members of this House took part, and in which the various interests of the railroad, and grain buyers as well as grain growers, were fully represented and laid their views before the government at great length. A verbatim report of these proceedings has also been printed, and is no doubt in the hands of hon. gentlemen. After full consideration, the government decided it was desirable to introduce an Act for the purpose of amending the existing system. There appeared to be no doubt that considerable hardships had been experienced by the grain growers of the Northwest, and Manitoba, chiefly, I think, arising, from the difficulty of obtaining proper transport; but, however that may be, there seems to have been no doubt at all that a very large and undue difference did exist between the prices at which the farmers were able to sell the grain on the street, so to speak, and the prices which the grain was actually worth, after making all reasonable deduction for the cost of transport, and necessary delay in handling the grain. This is technically known as the spread, and I am informed by gentlemen who are conversant with the trade that this, in many cases, amounted to a very large percentage indeed on the total value of the grain. I need hardly point out to this House, still less need point out to hon. gentlemen from those provinces, the extreme importance, not merely to the farmers themselves but to the railroad companies, and indeed to the whole community, of doing everything that lies in our power to enable the farmer of the Northwest to obtain the full market value of his grain with as small a deduction as possible. To that end it is desired and intended to extend the present Grain Act over eastern Canada as over western Canada.