

to the conditions under which such institutions shall be operated, and that there shall be some form of a control in the shape of a license, perhaps the people will have more confidence in it.

Mr. BURRELL: That is provided for in the Bill.

Mr. R. B. BENNETT: I have not read the section, but, that being so, it would meet very considerable difficulties which my hon. friend has referred to. We cannot get away from the fact that there is a measure of suspicion and doubt among people who have a small number of cattle with regard to anything called an exchange, because it will not be possible to disassociate the cattle exchange from the grain exchange in the public mind. People will not be quite sure. I do not quite see that the amendment of my hon. friend from St. John (Mr. Pugsley) would advance it very much. He says that you should leave open to the minister the power to say that this is a stock exchange.

Mr. MORPHY: No, stock yard.

Mr. R. B. BENNETT: I do not think that the Act was intended to operate in that way. I understood that, provided a stock yard complied with certain conditions, the minister would say in his certificate that the conditions met the demand. If those conditions were complied with the certificate should be given as a matter of course. This is a legal matter. Perhaps my hon. and learned friend (Mr. Pugsley) will remember that Mr. Fulton, when he was provincial secretary of British Columbia, let some papers lie in his office for an undue time and failed to give a certificate at the time he should have given it. They brought action against him, and the Privy Council held that the action would properly lie against him, although he was a public officer, because the law imposed upon him the duty of sending out these papers within a certain time. I take it that the draftsmen of this Bill proceeded upon that principle. With respect to the amendment, I think it should not prevail, because the minister should not have imposed upon him the duty of saying if the certificate should issue. The Act should determine what a stock yard is, and then his certificate could issue when the conditions provided for exist.

Mr. PUGSLEY: The object I had in view in suggesting the amendment was to prevent small stock yards throughout the country from coming within the provisions

of this Act. At St. John there is a place where cattle, sheep and hogs are regularly brought and offered for sale. Under this definition of a stock yard such places would be included.

Mr. R. B. BENNETT: I see the point.

Mr. PUGSLEY: That is the point I want to cover and if the language I propose is not sufficient for that purpose it ought to be possible to use some language that would cover it.

Mr. R. B. BENNETT: If my hon. friend cannot use language that is sufficient to effect that purpose it cannot be used in this House.

Mr. PUGSLEY: I am not proud of it.

Mr. R. B. BENNETT: We do not want this Bill to apply to the hundred and one little stock yards that exist all over the country.

Mr. PUGSLEY: Does not my hon. friend think that under the language of paragraph (f) it would apply?

Mr. R. B. BENNETT: If you really think the danger is a real one we should remedy it, because there are little institutions all over the country where live stock is bought and sold. In Edmonton there are three or four, and in Calgary there are three or four besides the big stock yards. That, I apprehend, is what we want to prevent. You would not want it to apply to the smaller institutions?

Mr. OLIVER: No.

Mr. MORPHY: I have a suggestion that I think will meet the idea pretty well. I would say:

"Stock yard" means any area of land used as a public market and operated under the provisions of this Act for purchasing and selling live stock.

Mr. R. B. BENNETT: That covers it I think.

Mr. PUGSLEY: Yes, that would be quite satisfactory to me.

Mr. ROBB: I was not present at the Committee on Agriculture when this Bill was discussed, and I am not positive that I know what the purpose of the minister is in introducing it. Does he hope that this will assist stock raisers to get larger prices for their products? It looks as if it might permit a group of men to get together and fix prices, crowding out the average buyer who has been doing business for many years fairly well and who, by competition,