

*Canada Grain Act*

the amendments and then take a vote on all of them at the end, that would be satisfactory to me.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel):** I have taken into consideration the remarks of the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin) and also the remarks of the minister. The Chair does have latitude to permit a vote at this stage, but I think a ceremony that will be taking place in half an hour will limit the Chair in its decision. Therefore, it is my opinion that the vote should be deferred.

The hon. member for Battle River (Mr. Downey) moves motion No. 2 as follows:

That Bill C-196, an act respecting grain, be amended by striking out the words "way cars or ships," line 28, page 2 thereof, and substituting therefor the following, "way cars, ships, or motor vehicles of an undertaking operating by licence issued under the National Transportation Act,"—

**Mr. Baldwin:** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Battle River (Mr. Downey) has greater belief in my eloquence than I have, because he was satisfied I would persuade the Chair and the government that it was wise and sensible to have a vote at this time. Consequently, he thought he would be summoned by the bell, and he is not here. Therefore I would ask that the motion stand at this time and that we proceed to the next one.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel):** Is it agreed that motion No. 3 be put at this stage, and that we stand motion No. 2?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

Motion No. 2 stands.

**Mr. J. H. Horner (Crowfoot)** moved:

That Bill C-196, an act respecting grain, be amended by deleting subclause 17 of clause 2 and substituting therefor:

"(17) "grain dealer" means a person in the western division who, for reward, on his own behalf or on behalf of another person, deals in or handles western grain;"

He said: Mr. Speaker, this amendment is not what I would call a major amendment, but in tidying up a poorly-drafted bill one has to deal with some of the details of the bill. The amendment seeks to add the words "a person in the western division" to clause 2(17), which as the bill reads now is all-inclusive and refers to a grain dealer in any part of Canada handling or dealing in western grain, including any person in eastern Canada or anywhere else. The old act pretty well spelled out that a grain dealer was a person in the western division handling western grain. The amendment merely provides that

the definition of "grain dealer" applies only to persons located in the western division who for reward deal in or handle western grain.

As I said, as presently drafted the bill leaves in doubt what is meant by the expression "grain dealer". The whole question of grain dealing and grain dealers was thoroughly examined by the Canada Grains Council, a body appointed by this government at the time of the last election. I personally felt at that time that the appointment of the grains council was rather a political thing; but the government has made an attempt to solicit from the grains council what might be considered wise counsel in the drafting of this bill.

I should like to read what the grains council had to say in regard to this question, and perhaps others, as reported in committee proceedings No. 34 at page 9. The Canada Grains Council was discussing the study that had been made and had this to say:

The Canada Grains Council, at the request of the Minister of Agriculture, undertook a thorough review of the old Canada Grain Act and, more recently, a review of Bill C-196. During this review, 45 meetings have been held by the Canada Grain Act Committee in conjunction with other associations. The details of these meetings are contained in the document I am now reading and the report before you.

This was a report that they filed with the committee, with a sheaf of amendments, some 50 in number.

Based on the meetings held and the personnel involved, it is estimated that the review of the Canada Grain Act by the Canada Grains Council consumed 4,320 man hours, equivalent to 2.2 man years. Therefore, the report being presented to this Committee today represents a comprehensive review of the legislation affecting Canadian grain by personnel knowledgeable of, and intimately affected by, such legislation.

They go on to make a number of suggestions. The brief of the Canada Grains Council has this to say, as reported at page 10:

In the submission to the Grains Council, the CGA Committee was requested to express the great dissatisfaction of the industry to the limited deadlines set for study. To elaborate on that, gentlemen, we had all of the grains community that we could possibly approach in the short period of time for the preparation of this document, actively engaged in sessions, many of which were delayed for various reasons, some because of the inability to get copies of Bill C-196.

That statement immediately brings to mind our inability all summer long to get copies of Bill C-197. But that is another matter with which I shall not deal at this moment. The brief continues:

I appreciate in this day and age that we have means of communication but these things do hap-