

Canada Grain Act

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I am advised by my advisers that the time allotted to the hon. member has expired. If he wishes to continue, he will have to receive the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent to allow the hon. member to continue?

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Horner: I am four minutes short, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I hear no consent. The Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Olson).

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, bearing in mind the accommodation that was made for the hon. member 40 minutes ago—

Mr. Horner: 36 minutes.

Mr. Olson:—it seems to me it would be appropriate to go over the many amendments that have been proposed so that those members of the House who were not members of the Standing Committee on Agriculture will be made aware of the numerous representations heard by the committee and, indeed, of the consideration the committee gave to many of the matters that have been revived in the amendments to be considered by the House at the report stage.

I do not intend to take up the full 40 minutes, but I do intend to go over these amendments very briefly so that hon. members will realize that what is happening here is in fact a repetition of much of the debate that took place in the committee. The committee sat for an extended period of time, during which it made a very detailed and exhaustive study of the matters that were before it for consideration. Virtually all of the proposed amendments were discussed in the committee. Some have been slightly modified, but nearly all have been discussed. Many of them were rejected and some were approved with modifications to achieve the objective of the proposer without impairing the workability of the bill. A number of amendments were not put following the explanations that were given. Therefore, I would like to deal with the amendments one by one.

Amendment No. 1 was discussed in the committee on June 5, as recorded at page 17 of committee proceedings No. 39. After an exhaustive discussion it was defeated in the committee on June 16, as recorded at page 21 of committee proceedings No. 40. If we are to have an orderly debate, and if we are to deal with this matter with dispatch so as to take

[Mr. Horner.]

into account all the representations that can properly be made by hon. members, we should respect the decision of that committee after its long and exhaustive discussion. Amendment No. 2 is concerned with clause 2(10). This matter also was fully discussed in the committee.

• (9:30 p.m.)

Amendment No. 3 relates to grain dealers. This amendment was discussed in the committee on June 16, as recorded at page 28 of committee proceedings No. 40 and was defeated on June 16, as recorded in proceedings No. 40 at page 49. So I contend that these matters have been fully discussed by those members of the committee who were charged with the responsibility of considering this matter on behalf of the House.

Amendment No. 4 is designed to limit weigh-overs at primary elevators to weigh-overs of the total grain stored. In practical terms, this does not necessarily work out in all cases and certainly the House would be failing in its responsibilities if it did not design a bill providing those statutory conditions that are necessary for practical and workable legislation.

Amendment No. 5 was discussed in the committee also. Amendment No. 6 was discussed in the committee, and amendment No. 7 was also discussed in the committee on June 17. Report No. 41, at page 17, covers this matter and an amendment has been recorded in the printed bill. It was approved on June 17, and so it has been dealt with.

So far as amendment No. 8 is concerned, it has some new aspects, but the reason for it is not clear unless it is intended to restrict the establishment of grain grades to the Governor in Council. Under the bill as written, statutory grades can only be established by the Governor in Council, but clause 16 provides power for the commission to establish grades for grain that is out-of-condition or ineligible for assignment to a statutory grade. It is very surprising to me that the hon. member would move this kind of amendment when it has always been the practice to set up grades outside of the statutory grades. These grades have been amendable from time to time by the Board of Grain Commissioners, usually on advice by advisory committees to the board, ever since 1930 when the statutory grades were put into the act.

Hon. members who are familiar with the grain industry and with the Board of Grain Commissioners will know, and will know without any equivocation whatever, that the