

Right Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: I thought that I should bring this matter to the attention of the honourable leader, because if there is any fear of ambiguity it ought to be made clear that there are definitions covering these different entities or individuals.

Hon. Mr. WILLOUGHBY: If they were technically named I should think there ought to be such definitions.

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT: May I call my honourable friend's attention to something which is not perhaps very serious, but may need greater precision? Section 1 speaks of wheat grown in the provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba in the year 1931, and delivered to elevator, commission merchant, track buyer or grain dealer, but it does not say when the delivery is to be made. I am wondering whether it would not be necessary to specify the period within which this would be delivered.

Hon. Mr. FORKE: The last clause of the Bill explains that.

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT: It must be delivered before that date, I suppose.

Hon. Mr. WILLOUGHBY: The last section states that the Act expires on the 31st day of July, 1932.

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT: I suppose that covers the point; otherwise you might have delivery in five or ten years, and that possibility would lead to considerable dispute. I had not noticed that provision.

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

THIRD READING

Hon. Mr. WILLOUGHBY moved the third reading of the Bill.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: If my honourable friend has any doubt as to the correctness of the description of the parties named in section 1 he might leave the third reading until to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. WILLOUGHBY: There is only one of them in question; that is the term "track buyer," and I know that is defined in the Grain Act.

Hon. Mr. FORKE: A track buyer is a man who gets a car in, and buys from individual buyers, and loads up the car with the grain he has thus bought.

Hon. Mr. WILLOUGHBY: It would be quite agreeable to me to postpone the third reading.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD: As to the point raised by the right honourable gentleman from Eganville (Right Hon. Mr. Graham), I think anyone who lives in Western Canada and is familiar with the methods of disposing of grain will consider that the provision in the Act is quite clear. There are only certain methods by which grain can be disposed of. The marketing of grain, so far as the buying is concerned, is confined to elevator companies, track buyers, commission men and dealers, and the Act specifies each of these agencies for the purchase of grain, and to my mind covers them absolutely. There is nobody purchasing grain, or concerned in the marketing of grain, who is not covered in the Act, and I imagine that if there were any ambiguity as to what constituted a track buyer or a commission man, the practice of the trade or the customs of the country would prevail. I am not a legal man, but I understand that where the law does not make specific provision, the custom or practice of the trade is taken as a general guide. So I think the legislation as it stands in the wording of this Bill is ample to carry out its intention.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: Is this Bill to stand until to-morrow?

Hon. Mr. WILLOUGHBY: If they want it to stand I am agreeable.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I am not insisting on the postponement of the third reading.

Hon. Mr. WILLOUGHBY: Then we will take the third reading now.

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

The Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 3 p.m.

THE SENATE

Thursday, July 30, 1931

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

THE BEAUHARNOIS PROJECT SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Before the Orders of the Day:

Hon. W. B. WILLOUGHBY: Honourable senator, I crave your indulgence for a few minutes in order that I may, in my capacity