

grades will prove beneficial. The future of the tobacco industry in that section of Ontario in which I live is dependent to a great extent on the export market. Of the 160 million pounds produced in the dominion of Canada, about 148 million pounds are produced in that area, and as a result it has reached the saturation point, and more, for domestic use. For that reason it is essential that the export market be developed. We have been exporting last year from 25 to 40 million pounds of tobacco, but I am not sure whether that is leaf or processed tobacco, because none of it goes abroad until it has been put into the processing system. I want to urge the Government to consider assistance to the tobacco growers in the foreign market. A great deal of help can be given by lowering of the excise tax on cigarettes; that would help the domestic market.

Honourable senators, I think we should support this bill, and I am prepared and will be pleased to vote for second reading. Although the act has never yet been proclaimed, and we are amending it, I believe the bill would benefit the tobacco growers of this country.

Hon. Mr. Quinn: Is it not unusual to have an amendment made to a bill which has not yet been proclaimed? Has it been done before?

Hon. Mr. Taylor (Norfolk): I think probably the honourable senator should direct that question to some one more experienced in governmental work than I am.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: I think I can say it is most unusual, but it is not irregular. The bill is on the statute book, but it has not been proclaimed; and when it is proclaimed it will be proclaimed as amended.

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: That is correct.

Hon. Mr. Taylor (Norfolk): Honourable senators, by way of explanation, I may say that at present the grading is all done under an individual act for each product, but when the Canada Agricultural Products Standards Act is proclaimed it will cover all the products, including leaf tobacco.

Hon. Cyrille Vaillancourt: Honourable senators, in speaking on this bill I do not know if it would be in order for me to refer to maple syrup, a product in which I am especially interested. Before the law is proclaimed we have to ask the Department of Agriculture for the right kind of classification of the products named in the act. We often see products labelled with the word "Maple", but the producers should be required to say whether or not these products are "Pure

Maple". Many manufacturers outside the province of Quebec, as well as many in that province, use the words "Artificial Flavouring" or "Artificial Maple Flavour" on their labels. Not only syrup, but various kinds of chocolates, candy, ice cream and other products are labelled as having a maple flavour, when in fact they do not contain one drop of maple sap. We have tried for many years to arrive at a solution of this difficulty. As honourable senators know, for many years the army used the light grade in Quebec. Some manufacturers bought poor, cheap maple products, changed the flavour completely, and the product was practically like poison for the army. Poor maple sugar, artificially coloured, is sold as "pure light" maple syrup. I do not know if the experts can do anything to overcome this, but I assure honourable senators that if I am asked for some suggestions I shall be pleased to give them. I am happy that the Quebec Government grades the products perfectly, but unfortunately there is not the same control when the product is shipped to other provinces, and that causes another problem.

Hon. A. K. Hugessen: Honourable senators, in view of the last two speeches I think that it would be advisable to have this bill sent to a committee, so that the appropriate departmental officials would be in a position to explain some of the questions that are being raised.

My only purpose in rising is to express some slight doubt as to the wisdom of—or perhaps to express a warning against—extension of this act, which, incidentally, has not yet been proclaimed, to more products than are absolutely essential. If honourable senators will look at the act which was passed three years ago, but which has not as yet been proclaimed, that is, the Canada Agricultural Products Standards Act, they will see that it is in its terms capable of being made extremely restrictive of many kinds of trade. It permits the Governor in Council to establish grades for various classes of agricultural products, to prescribe the terms and conditions under which they can be sold, to prevent them from being sold either internally or in export markets. He can prohibit importation into Canada, or exportation out of Canada, of these products, and he may make any number of regulations of a very far-reaching character with respect to these products.

Now, in its original form the act relates merely to articles of human food, namely, "livestock, eggs, poultry, milk, vegetables, fruit, honey and maple syrup, and products thereof", and there may be some argument for giving the Governor in Council, under legislation of this kind, very extensive powers