

the questions raised by the Leader of the Opposition on sections 10 and 11 of the bill, and if any amendments are necessary they will be made. No one in this chamber, or anywhere else, wants legislation to be passed that is not perfectly intelligible and understandable and which does not cover the situation in the best possible way.

I appreciate very much the suggestion of the honourable Senator from Ottawa (Hon. Mr. Lambert) for establishment of a joint Canada-American wheat pool to dispose of the grain surpluses of the two countries. There might be something to say concerning that. It is an idea well worth consideration and study, and I understand that he has agreed to look into it further and to speak on that subject at a later date.

**Hon. Mr. Burchill:** Will the honourable gentleman permit a question? Has any thought at all been given to accepting sterling in the sale of wheat?

**Hon. Mr. Aseltine:** I cannot answer that question.

**Hon. Mr. Burchill:** Would the honourable gentleman venture an opinion as to the advisability of accepting sterling for wheat?

**Hon. Mr. Aseltine:** No. I am sponsoring this bill, and I do not intend to make any statement that might bind the Government in any manner whatsoever with respect to sterling.

**Hon. Mr. Burchill:** I am just wondering whether the honourable gentleman has ever speculated on how much wheat could be moved if sterling were acceptable in payment.

**Hon. Mr. Aseltine:** No. In view of the fact that we are very closely tied with the United States at this time, that just cannot be done.

Honourable senators, I have no further remarks to make in this connection.

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

#### REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the third time?

**Hon. Mr. Aseltine:** Honourable senators, with leave of the Senate I move, seconded by the Honourable Senator Haig, that this bill be referred to the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce.

**Hon. Mr. Pouliot:** Honourable senators, I move, seconded by the Honourable Senator Stambaugh, that the motion be amended by deleting the words "Standing Committee on

Banking and Commerce" and substituting therefor "Committee of the Whole".

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** Honourable senators,—

**Hon. Mr. Pouliot:** I do not wish to prevent my friend the Leader of the Government from speaking at this time, but I want to be sure that if he speaks now it will be with the understanding that I shall be permitted to speak after him. My point is that much valuable information can be brought out in discussion of this bill in the Committee of the Whole. I ask honourable senators to bear in mind, in the first place, that all senators are members of the Committee of the Whole; in the second place, all the questions asked and answers given will be recorded by the reporters, without any extra cost to the country; and in the third place, the discussion in the Committee of the Whole will be much better than that which would take place in the Banking and Commerce Committee, in that honourable senators will be well posted on all points and be in a position to ask important questions from the experts who do appear at the committee.

I will not say anything more, except to point to the fact that this is another instance where the Banking and Commerce is the overall committee. Yesterday it was asked to consider problems relating to water, today it is wheat. There is no end to it.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** Honourable senators, usually I do not care to what committee a bill is sent, but in this instance, as I have pointed out, the minister and his experts will be before the standing committee, not before this house. I say quite candidly that I cannot promise honourable senators any better explanation or advice than they have received from the honourable senator for Rosetown (Hon. Mr. Aseltine). Some honourable senators would like further advice and information, and I agree they are entitled to it, but we cannot get it on the floor here. It is for that reason that I am anxious that the bill go to the Banking and Commerce Committee rather than to the Committee of the Whole.

In my experience in this house the two or three occasions on which measures have been considered in the Committee of the Whole have not been entirely successful. When a bill is considered in the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce, all senators who attend can ask questions; whether they vote on it or not in committee does not matter, because they can vote on the bill when it comes back to the house. I urge honourable senators very strongly to refer this bill to the standing Committee on Banking and Commerce.

**Hon. Mr. Golding:** Would His Honour the Speaker permit me to ask one question of