

give an assurance that they will keep strictly out of politics and neither interfere nor attempt to interfere with the fiscal policy of the government. Will the minister give us an assurance to that effect?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I have already spoken to the council of the unwisdom of making themselves conspicuous on certain controversial questions, and have pointed out that it would render it easier for me to keep the grant going and possibly to increase it if necessary if they were not so active in displaying their views. I think there is a marked improvement in this regard. They are not offensive this year so far as I can see.

Mr. YOUNG (Weyburn): But they are active.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I do not know about their activity, but I cannot see any offensiveness on their part, particularly since the election of the present president.

Mr. SPEAKMAN: I wish to make one or two observations in regard to the question of the marking of goods imported into Canada so as to indicate the country of origin. I support this proposition. The minister, for whose subtlety I have a great deal of respect, when this matter was brought up on a previous occasion, tried to link it up with the general idea of protection. I will not say that he was confused in his own mind, because I am sure he was not; but he did not make any particular attempt to ensure the house against confusion. I may say that I am in favour of a good many kinds of protection, but it is not necessarily the sort of protection the minister has referred to. For example, I am in favour of protecting the consumer against exploitation, though that is not protection of the sort the minister speaks of; and I am equally in favour of protecting the consumer against fraud or against any uncertainty as to the quality of the goods he buys. I am not prepared to impose a high tariff, but I do support the idea that the consumer should know just where the goods come from which he is buying, what the quality is, and so forth, so that he may make his choice. That is the kind of protection I want. It is the minister's obvious intent to permit a wrong impression to prevail, and I have no wish to see it succeed.

Mr. BROWN: I have been interested in this discussion with regard to New Zealand butter being sold under the guise of Canadian butter. In what form does that butter come into Canada? Is it in pound prints or in larger packages?

[Mr. E. J. Young.]

Mr. MOTHERWELL: In fifty-six pound packages.

Mr. BROWN: Then it must be repacked by someone in Canada. I can understand that the Dominion government might very well require that the packages coming to Canada should be marked with the country of origin, but I can see some difficulty in the way of the Dominion government acting when that butter goes out to the trade and is repacked in pound prints, as I presume it is sold. Then I cannot be just sure, on this question of fraud, whether the objection is taken because New Zealand butter is better or worse than Canadian butter. It cannot be fraud practised on the consumer if, as was stated this afternoon, New Zealand butter is selling in Vancouver for two cents per pound more than Canadian butter.

Mr. SPEAKMAN: I consider it fraud when a consumer is induced to buy something under the belief that it is a different article. I am not referring to the inferiority or superiority of New Zealand butter; I merely desire that the customer may know what he is buying and may get what he wants.

Mr. BROWN: On the other hand, if this butter is simply going out as butter, not labeled, I do not see how the question of fraud can enter into the transaction.

Mr. FRASER: There is a bonus of \$100 paid to creameries under this vote. Would the minister tell us on what basis that bonus is given?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: This bonus of \$100 is intended to assist in the provision of cooling rooms for small creameries which have not a sufficient turnover to justify their putting in a cold storage. That grant is offered the creameries provided they comply with inspection conditions, and of course these cooling rooms cost a good deal more than that. This is an encouragement to them to put in their own money in order to provide the very necessary requisite of a cooling room.

Item agreed to.

Cold storage warehouses, \$467,837.

Mr. LUCAS: Will the minister explain this large increase?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: The increase is due to the construction, under the Cold Storage Act, of a large warehouse at Halifax and another warehouse at New Westminster. Perhaps I might give the details of this vote:

Fourth instalment to United Farmers' Cooperative Company, Limited, Toronto, Ont., \$1,732.