

Canadian Livestock Feed Board

On clause 12—*Salaries and expenses.*

Mr. Danforth: Mr. Chairman, through this legislation parliament is giving the government authority to designate whatever salaries they may deem to be necessary. I should like to know whether or not the men who will be appointed to this board will be considered as senior members of the civil service. also, will the minister give us some indication of the minimum-maximum area in which the salary of such members would fall. The board members are to be given a salary, travelling expenses and living expenses. This is normal in respect of such appointments. I am wondering however whether the minister can give us some indication of the salary range.

Mr. Sauvé: The members of the board will not be members of the civil service. I suppose the salary range would be similar to that of members of similar boards which exist. I really am at a loss to give the hon. member any amount, because I do not have any guide lines on this, except the normal guide lines of Treasury Board, and what is happening in other similar boards.

Mr. Danforth: The reason I bring this to the attention of the minister is that there is no doubt in anyone's mind that normally the qualifications of such persons would be in direct ratio to the amount of money the government is going to pay for such purposes. This is not strictly an economy matter that I am bringing up. I am more concerned that the men who will make up this board will be the best qualified we can find in Canada for this particular function.

Contrary to the argument put forward earlier this afternoon that there be five members on the board, in order that bilingualism may become a factor, I do not think those engaged in agriculture are in the least concerned about the bilingual aspect. As one who represents farmers who are mostly Anglo-Saxon I have no interest in whether or not all the members of the board are French speaking. I am concerned solely with the ability of these men to administer this measure. It is for this reason I ask what salary range is contemplated. My fear is that if we have economy in mind we will not attract the right men for this difficult and important task. This is what I am concerned about.

Mr. Sauvé: I would think that the salary range would be the same as that which is applicable to the Ontario Dairy Commission.

Clause agreed to.

[Mr. Sauvé.]

Clauses 13 and 14 agreed to.

On clause 15—*Canadian Livestock Feed Board Advisory Committee.*

Mr. Herridge: Mr. Chairman, this is a very important committee related to the functions of the board. Could the minister inform the house how he intends to appoint members to the advisory committee; will they be representatives of farmers organizations or of the grain trade, or will they be other persons? Could he give us an idea of how he intends to appoint the members of this committee?

Mr. Sauvé: They will be appointed on a regional basis and will represent farm organizations. We have not made up our minds whether or not they should represent only farmers, but the majority will represent farmers.

Mr. Herridge: I am glad to hear that.

• (5:50 p.m.)

Mr. MacDonald (Prince): Mr. Chairman, I want to return again to this clause, and I mention just in passing that I referred to this situation when we were at the second reading stage. I think hon. members could be very helpful to the operation of this program by simply preventing a waste of time and, to a certain degree, a waste of money. I am somewhat disturbed about some elements of the way the proposed advisory committee is to be devised because it has inherited, at least for the moment, some seeds which will result in an ineffective growth. Let me refer to these briefly.

I am not entirely happy with the fact that the appointment of these members is to be made by the governor in council, because this tends to leave the responsibilities of the individual members outside the areas and organizations they represent, and more or less with themselves. From previous experience this has shown to be a disadvantaged function of advisory committees. I am also concerned that the advisory committee is to be almost entirely dependent upon the board. There seems to be nothing in clause 15 which provides for a staff or for the obtaining of independent advice. There seems to be no authorization given to the committee to carry out independent examinations or investigations on its own, and there seems to be no indication that there can be publication or communication of information to producers.

We are creating a committee that is something other than strong, and I must admit