

to March 15 in the spring. The shippers who strike the low markets will be aggrieved; the shippers who strike the high market will be satisfied, but those who strike the low markets will want compensation for doing what they could not refuse to do, what they were obliged to do by order of the board.

Then you will have the spectacle of thousands of persons bringing in their affidavits and statutory declarations in order to get compensation. I put that proposition to one gentleman who was speaking in favour of the bill, and he said that was not what was contemplated, that it was compensation from a fund to be provided by the other shippers of Ben Davis apples. In other words there is to be a compulsory pooling of the proceeds. All I can say is that the same principle applies in that case as applies in compensation by the government. I would refer the minister to the experiment of the grape producers in the United States. There are numerous similar instances where all the shippers contribute something to a fund, which fund is paid out to a certain class of the shippers. The Patterson plan in Australia is another example; it is not a success, according to the most recent literature on the subject. That is how this will work out under these compensation provisions.

It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that merely to describe this situation shows the absolutely unworkability of this act. Perhaps it might be carried out, but if so it will be at tremendous expense. I may say that in the apple industry a scheme of compulsory pooling will put a premium on bad grading, because shippers will desire to get as many No. 1's out of their crop as possible, in order to share in that No. 1 pool. That always has been the result in the past, and undoubtedly it will be the result in the future. That is a provision in the act which I think is unsound. If the minister can give a different interpretation of it or if he can explain it in some other way I should be very glad, but it does seem to me that is exactly how it will work out if this scheme is put into operation at all.

There is another feature to which I should like to refer, and that is the tremendous duplication of facilities that will be brought about. I wonder why this clause was included:

(e) to assist by grant or loan the construction or operation of facilities for preserving, storing, or conditioning the regulated product and to assist research work relating to the marketing of such product;

These are very laudable objects indeed, but cold storage is looked after by the cold storage

[Mr. Ilsley.]

branch of the Department of Agriculture at the present time; research is attended to by the national research council, so why are we to set up this expensive machinery to do what we have hundreds of civil servants attending to at the present time? This bill not only sets up a very expensive piece of machinery in itself; in addition this machinery duplicates machinery already set up for these very purposes.

My time is drawing to a close and I cannot deal with many other features of this act. I will wait until the bill is discussed in committee to take up some of the other points to which I desire to take exception. I do want to say something now, however, with regard to conditions which exist in that part of the province of Nova Scotia from which I come. I hope I will not bore the members of the house by talking of conditions peculiar to Nova Scotia, but I do want to make a few suggestions as to how I think the objects sought by this bill can be attained in a very much simpler, less expensive and more effective manner so far as my part of that province is concerned, and I offer these suggestions to the minister in all seriousness.

There is no question but that there is a great demand on the part of many of the shippers and producers of apples in Nova Scotia for a marketing board or for some control over the shipment of fruit. That is beyond question, but if I understand the matter correctly it seems to me that what is needed by the apple business in Nova Scotia can be pretty well summed up under three headings without resorting to all this complicated machinery at all. As I tried to say the other night the first is proper inspection. There is an idea prevalent among some persons that the apple crop of Nova Scotia will receive very much better inspection and will be graded and packed a great deal better if we have some marketing boards than would be the case otherwise. That is not so at all. The fruit branch of the Department of Agriculture has charge of the inspection of fruit, and other branches of that department have charge of the inspection and grading of other products. If that work is not being carried out as it should be the department is not doing its duty; that is all. There is a great tendency on the part of many persons throughout the country at the present time to pass new laws and to set up new machinery instead of enforcing the present laws and making use of the present machinery. We have many laws on our statute books at the present time in regard to these matters of inspection, packing and grading, and we have a great deal of machinery as well. But in