

personally drew attention to the fact that that might be a very dangerous thing to do with so much twine being carried by truck. All this subsection says is that where a person is found carrying or has in his possession binder twine of this particular class, then he must show that it is going into export. We are trying to avoid the possibility of a carrier loading up twine, say at Saskatoon, heading towards the American boundary and then peddling it along the way. Under this subsection any officer would have the right to compel a person in whose possession binder twine is found to submit proof that the twine is going into export and is not being sold locally.

Mr. SENN: I do not think the minister gets my point. I was referring to subsection 1, which provides that the dealer shall be responsible for the number of feet in a ball and for seeing that it is correctly labelled, and that all the other requirements of the act are complied with. The dealer may be a retail merchant who would not know whether the twine was going to run six hundred feet to the pound, or whether it would be more than five per cent short. If twine is found in his possession that is over five per cent short, under this act he would be liable to a fine. I submit it would be practically impossible for a local dealer to discover that.

Mr. GARDINER: We discussed this point in connection with the penalty section, and finally came to the conclusion that there was no other way of dealing with the matter. While what the hon. member has said may be perfectly true, that a person who has twine in his possession cannot be certain of its length without measuring the twine, on the other hand a manufacturer cannot be certain that the individual who has the twine in his possession did not cut off a hundred feet. All that such a man would have to do would be to take the tag off the end of the twine, run off a hundred feet, cut it off and put the tag on again. It would not be fair to say that such an individual should not have some responsibility if action were taken. This section has been in its present form for many years, and, as I pointed out the other day, the penalty in connection with the tolerance of five per cent has been there since 1907.

Mr. SENN: Have there been any prosecutions of retail merchants under this section?

Mr. GARDINER: I would imagine that if there had been any prosecutions that is where they would have started, but I am not in a position to say just how many there have been.

Mr. CLARK (York-Sunbury): Would it be possible to substitute the word "maker" for the word "dealer" in that section? Binder twine is labelled by the manufacturer and not by the dealer.

Mr. GARDINER: "Dealer" is defined in section 3 as a firm or person manufacturing or importing or selling or having in possession for sale any binder twine.

Section as amended agreed to.

On section 14—Labelling on salt containers.

Mr. GARDINER: Subsection 2 reads:

No deficiency in the weight of the salt contained in any package shall be deemed a contravention of this act unless it exceeds five per centum.

When the question was raised the other day I said that there did not seem to be any provision for the five per cent tolerance in the old act. I am informed by the department that on a more careful consideration of the matter they do not think there is any real reason why this subsection should be included in the bill and I am quite prepared to have it deleted.

Mr. ROGERS: I move that subsection 2 of section 14 be deleted.

Amendment agreed to.

Mr. STIRLING: I also raised the question of block salt.

Mr. GARDINER: I have been informed that table salt and other kinds of salt that we were discussing the other day are covered by other legislation. In so far as salt is concerned this bill deals only with salt entering into the further manufacture of a product, and for that reason it is not necessary to deal with rock salt, block salt or any salt of that kind.

Mr. BENNETT: Where does that appear in the act? I was looking for it the other day.

Mr. GARDINER: It is covered partly by section 14 and section 15. The question was raised as to whether we should put those in.

Mr. BENNETT: Since the house has been in committee I have looked at one of these salt cartons to see how it was marked. It is said to contain two pounds net, but it is not marked on the end. Why should the producer be put to the expense of marking the contents of the package on the outside? Section 14 requires that each package shall be marked and it struck me that a double obligation was being put upon the producer that was unnecessary.