

another section should be added, to the effect that the chief analyst should immediately analyse that and show that it agrees with the certificate of the analyst which the manufacturer himself has had, and then when the inspector is informed of that he will be able immediately, before his own sample has been sent to the inspector, to apply his tag, with the analysis upon it, and thereby give the official stamp. I do not think it is at all wise that the inspector should be allowed to put his tag or official stamp upon a package before he has obtained official recognition of the analysis of that. No doubt, if the tag was attached the majority of farmers would suppose the analysis was a correct one. The manufacturers will have to have constant communication with the inspector. That officer will have to constantly visit the manufactories as special compounds are being placed on the market.

Mr. JENKINS. The committee should bear in mind, in discussing this question, that the manufacture of fertilisers is a business largely open to fraud. I have spent many years in testing manures, and my experience has been an unfortunate one. I do not think I have obtained a cent's worth for all the money I have invested. The proposed tag will not be of much value in detecting bad manure. On the contrary, it may be made use of by a manufacturer, if he is inclined to swindle, to help him in doing so, and we should hesitate before we place an additional means of swindling in the hands of the manufacturer. I should be sorry to say that all the manufacturers of fertilisers are swindlers; but, so far as my experience goes, the majority are in great haste to get rich, and are not very particular as to the means, and, as a rule, they endeavor to get rich at the expense of the farmers. We should therefore be very careful before we place any additional means in the hands of the manufacturers to swindle the farmers. I do not see my way clear as regards this tag. It may be detached, and made use of by a manufacturer to get rid of an inferior article at the price of a prime article. It is a very difficult subject, and the farmer will have more protection from the act that an analysis is deposited with the chief analyst, and if the sample sold does not correspond with that analysis, the vendor is open to prosecution. That is sufficient protection to the farmer, and I believe it will be a greater protection than if we applied any tag.

Mr. CHAPLEAU. There will not be great temptation to place a tag on an inferior article, because the person doing so will be liable to a fine of \$500. The tag will be very useful as a link in the chain of evidence to convict the person who endeavored to defraud the public by selling an inferior article.

Mr. FISHER. Then the tag is a mere voluntary arrangement on the part of the seller?

Mr. CHAPLEAU. Yes.

Mr. FISHER. And the manufacturer has to send a sample to the Department, whether he likes it or not?

Mr. CHAPLEAU. Yes.

On section 11,

Mr. CHAPLEAU. I move that the minimum be reduced to 5 per cent. on soluble phosphoric acid, and that, instead of 10 per cent., 8 per cent. be inserted.

Mr. BAIN. Will that not make the inspection valueless, as regards high-priced manures?

Mr. CHAPLEAU. If a man manufactures a high-priced fertiliser, a sample must be sent to the Department, and he must sell according to the analysis; but the inspector shall not be allowed to place his tag and certificate upon any product which shall not come up to the minimum grade.

Mr. FISHER. Has the Department received any information from experts in these matters, as to whether \$10 per

Mr. FISHER.

ton will coincide as a standard of value with the standard of quality fixed in the Bill?

Mr. CHAPLEAU. I have taken these figures from the hon. gentleman who presented the Bill, but who, I am sorry to say, is not here to-night. We will not, however, ask concurrence before the hon. gentleman has arrived, when a better explanation may be given. I understand, however, from the head of the Department, that he supposes this figure will cover it.

Mr. BAIN (Wentworth). I would suggest that they obtain through the Department some information directly from the experts in these matters, because the Bill will be valueless unless this percentage is fair and equitable as between the farmers and the manufacturer.

Mr. CHAPLEAU. I may say that the information from the Department has come from the experience and legislation in over half a dozen of the United States, where the greatest attention has been given to these matters.

Mr. FISHER. There is another point mentioned in the letter from the manufacturing firm to which I have already referred, and that is, as to the necessity of allowing a certain margin, if it should happen, that by reason of age the compound phosphates should become resolved into insoluble phosphoric acid. I think it would be desirable that the date of the analysis should be stated in the certificate of analysis, and that some allowance of that kind should be made, in case the compound reverts to its insoluble form.

Mr. CHAPLEAU. I have received some information on that point, but it is one that I can leave to the hon. member for Welland, as he is going to submit an amendment, providing for 5 per cent. soluble sulphuric acid against 2 per cent. reverted.

Mr. BAIN (Wentworth). The margin left is, I am afraid, a very small one.

Mr. CASEY. Some of these manures are not permanent compounds, but will spoil by keeping, and it stands to reason that if they should spoil by keeping they should not be sold as of the same value as before. The manure may retain its value, though it reverts to its insoluble form, which may not be of any great value, unless some new chemical compound is formed.

Mr. CHAPLEAU. Finely ground phosphates, which some consider not so valuable, because the soluble phosphate acid does not appear, are, by others, considered very valuable manures, because the effect is produced afterwards, though it is not visible at the time.

Mr. CASEY. The purchaser ought to know that it will only become valuable after it has been in the ground for some time.

On section 12,

Mr. CHAPLEAU. At the fourth line, after the word "package," I wish to add "bag or barrel," and then, in the next line, after the word "inspector," add "to accompany the bill of inspection of such inspector." On the 26th line of the page, after the words "preceding section," I wish to add "or who sells, or offers, or exposes for sale, any fertiliser which does not contain the percentage of constituents mentioned in the manufacturer's certificate accompanying the same."

Mr. CASEY. Is not this covered by the words from the 19th line down to the 24th line.

Mr. CHAPLEAU. The Bill originally made the inspection obligatory; now it is only permissive.

Mr. CASEY. I think the amendment should say: in the case of goods that are not subject to inspection.