

Freshwater Fish Marketing Report

Winnipeg. It was pointed out that the words "the city of Winnipeg" were highly restrictive in that the head office of the board would be confined to the centre core of the city. This amendment was designed in order that this would not be the case. It would amend the bill so that the metropolitan city of Winnipeg, the finest city of Canada, the heartland of the country—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Osler: —would be eligible for this head office.

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, how could I keep my seat after those wonderful words about the great city of Winnipeg? Like the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre (Mr. Osler), I represent the city of Winnipeg itself and I suppose I should therefore adopt a parochial position and say that the head office should be in the core of my city. But I think it does make sense that the head office should be located in the Winnipeg area; for example, it might even be located as far north as Selkirk. I wonder whether the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre could ask someone on his behalf, since he has spoken, to be a little more specific as to the meaning of the words "in the immediate vicinity". What is "immediate"; what is "vicinity"? I also ask the—

Mr. Osler: Are you suspicious?

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Yes. Anything that comes from that side makes me suspicious. I have been here a while.

An hon. Member: That is a mutual feeling.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Friday is a good day, is it not, Mr. Speaker? Perhaps the Minister without Portfolio (Mr. Lang) can tell us what is in mind in this respect. I realize that the amendment has been moved by a private backbencher, but it looks as though it has government support. Perhaps the minister can explain what is meant by the wording. Where does the government intend that this board shall have its head office?

Mr. Orange: Hay River.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): I thought "vicinity" was very wide.

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, in rising following the

suggestion of the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) I am pleased to venture into the realm of legal interpretation for him. I am happy to say that I support this amendment, that I see it as having a good degree of wisdom, according to my interpretation of it. The clause, as it stood originally, may have read rather restrictively as including not even all of Winnipeg as we generally know it, since the words "the city of Winnipeg" may have had a technical meaning rather narrower than the general, geographic area of metropolitan Winnipeg.

It is with that interpretation that I am pleased to see this amendment which will give the board of the corporation the discretion to locate the office in that general area. I would like to assure the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre that I see nothing in the amendment to indicate any distant move of the head office from the centre of Winnipeg.

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, my comments on this amendment will be very brief. I listened with interest to the words of the mover of the amendment as well as those of the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles). Just to show how reasonable we on this side of the house are, we have absolutely no objection to this amendment and it is our intention to support it, as we hope members on the government side will support the other two amendments that will be dealt with after lunch.

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Just one sentence, Mr. Speaker. I, too, will support the amendment, but I must say to the government that it really constitutes a most inadequate exchange for taking away the Air Canada facilities.

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, I also support the amendment in the same way as the hon. member for South Shore (Mr. Crouse). This shows our reasonableness. Our reasonableness was indicated in the committee when some of my colleagues voted against an amendment which I moved. I would like this attitude of reasonableness to be regarded as a precedent by all hon. members. Also, I would accept in principle any move on the part of the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre (Mr. Osler) which will help offset the supercilious remarks made about the illiteracy of the fishermen.