

*Canadian Livestock Feed Board*

should like to ask the minister, and to have his assurance, if it is intended under this new feed grain board to protect the interests of the producers of feed grain in southwestern Ontario? Have any provisions been made whereby the interests of these producers can be protected?

**Mr. Sauv :** The answer is affirmative, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Thomas (Middlesex West):** The minister has replied in the affirmative. May I ask him now how it is proposed to put these producers of feed grain in southwestern Ontario in a more equitable position with the producers of feed grain on the prairies?

**Mr. Sauv :** It will be the responsibility of the board to devise methods which will comply with your request.

[Translation]

**Mr. Matte:** Mr. Chairman, paragraph (c) of section 5 concerns reasonable stability of prices. On what will this stability be based? Will it vary according to seasons, crops or the cost of living?

**Mr. Sauv :** Mr. Chairman, stability will of course be dependent upon purchase prices quoted on the Winnipeg stockmarket or upon the cost of feed grain produced in eastern Canada. Market fluctuations will have some bearing on stability. It is not so much a question of the board establishing what prices will be, but of trying to prevent too much fluctuation in prices from one month to the other.

It is a known fact that, in the past, as soon as the navigation season closed, feed grain prices have fluctuated enormously, and it will be the responsibility of the board to try and prevent such fluctuations by taking suitable steps. But I do not think it will be its responsibility to determine either purchase or selling prices.

[English]

Clause agreed to.

On clause 6—Powers.

**Mr. Danforth:** Mr. Chairman, clauses 6, 7 and 8 deal with the tremendous powers that are going to be vested in this board. I am wondering if the government has had adequate consultation with the provincial governments with regard to some of these powers, which seem to overlap powers given to provincial marketing boards? These powers

[Mr. Thomas (Middlesex West).]

deal with responsibilities in both jurisdictions. They deal with the administration of products that could conceivably be under both jurisdictions. I should like to go through this clause rather slowly, because I should like to ask the minister to make explanations, owing to the very important principles involved. I would request at this time an adequate explanation of the feeling that the government has, and the interpretation that the government makes, with respect to the various parts of this clause under discussion.

• (3:50 p.m.)

For example, as the hon. member for Middlesex West pointed out, we are most concerned about the equality of rail transportation with respect to Ontario feed grains. Under clause 6 (a) (ii) we have:

—payments related to the cost of feed grain transportation, to or for the benefit of livestock feeders—

But then there is this inclusion:

—in accordance with the regulations.

I am interested in this, in view of the minister's answer that it would be within the purview of the board to look into and study the feasibility of the equalization that we, in Ontario, are determined to have.

May I ask the minister if, in his considered opinion, the board will have the power to make such equalization, or is it considered that the board will only study this problem, and make such recommendations as it may see fit to the government, with the government then, after giving the matter consideration, making its decision in this regard? If this is the course of action to be followed, a matter like this could take months, or years. We are very much concerned that something be done in the immediate future, because such action would immediately lower the price of feed grain to eastern farmers, particularly where Ontario feed grains are concerned. This is one of the principles I should like to draw attention to. Similar thinking applies to the rest of the bill.

**Mr. Sauv :** Mr. Chairman, I have said repeatedly that the board will have the same authority to deal with the problems of corn and grain producers in Ontario as it has with those in other provinces. The interpretation we have given to this act deals with these problems. As hon. members are aware, for almost two years there have been meetings between the Ontario Federation of Agriculture and the feed board administration with respect to ways and means of subsidizing the