

On section 284—Licence for stemmers.

Mr. MERCIER (St. Henri): Is this a new clause?

Mr. MATTHEWS: Clauses 284, 285 and 286 correspond with section 329 of the existing act. It has been rewritten to conform to the other licensing sections of the act and to make it clear that the business of a stemmer includes "casing" which is a term well understood in the trade and is defined in clause 7, paragraph (a) of the bill.

Section agreed to.

Sections 285 to 303 inclusive agreed to.

On section 304—Unlawfully having or selling manufactured tobacco or cigars.

Mr. MERCIER (St. Henri): Is subclause 4 new?

Mr. MATTHEWS: Yes. If loose tobacco or cigarettes are distributed there is no means of determining whether the packages from which they are taken for distribution have been properly stamped.

Mr. VENIOT: What do you mean by "distribute" in subsection 4?

Mr. MATTHEWS: Given away.

Section agreed to.

Sections 305 to 320 inclusive agreed to.

On section 321—Commencement of act.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Is the minister in a position to give a guarantee that parliament will be prorogued by the first day of July? I shall be glad to have this section carry if he is perfectly sure that will be carried out.

Mr. MATTHEWS: The answer is no, I am not able to give a guarantee; but I am able to express the wish, in which I hope the right hon. gentleman concurs.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Perhaps the Prime Minister can give the guarantee, as he is just coming in.

We have before us, Mr. Prime Minister, a section which is to the effect that:

This act shall come into force on the first day of July, 1934.

I was asking the Minister of National Revenue if he can give a guarantee that parliament will be prorogued by that date.

Mr. BENNETT: I think, Mr. Chairman, I can readily give a guarantee that the Royal assent will be given to the bill by that date. But with respect to whether or not we have risen, that is another thing altogether. Perhaps the leader of the opposition would give a guarantee in that regard. It always rests with the opposition.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I will guarantee to work with the Prime Minister to end the session speedily, if he will do so.

Section agreed to.

Mr. CHEVRIER: I do not want to delay the business, but before the bill carries, might I ask the minister with respect to section 304, subsection 4:

It shall be deemed an offence under the last preceding subsection for anyone to distribute gratis tobacco or cigarettes for advertising purposes otherwise than in packages stamped as herein provided.

So that there may be no misunderstanding, will the minister say under what conditions that may be done?

Mr. MATTHEWS: If loose tobacco or cigarettes are distributed there is no means of determining whether the packages from which they have been taken have been properly stamped.

Mr. BENNETT: My colleague the Minister of Finance (Mr. Rhodes) has intimated to me that objection has been taken to some clauses that vest in the minister the power of making regulations, the breach of which involves imprisonment. That must be done by the governor in council. The objection taken will be met and amendments made accordingly.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Then we shall understand that the next time the bill comes up the minister will have amendments to his own act to carry that out?

Mr. BENNETT: Yes.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Substituting "the governor in council" in all those sections where "the minister" now appears.

Progress reported.

## FARM INDEBTEDNESS

### MEASURE TO FACILITATE COMPROMISES BETWEEN FARMERS AND CREDITORS—OFFICIAL RECEIVERS—BOARDS OF REVIEW

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister) moved that the house go into committee to consider the following proposed resolution:

That it is expedient to bring in a measure to facilitate compromises and arrangements between farmers and their creditors, to provide for the appointment of official receivers, and for the establishment of provincial boards of review and their remuneration.

He said: I shall accommodate myself to the wishes of the party opposite as to whether or not I make a detailed explanation of this measure now or when the house has gone into