

Mr. GARDINER: I said this morning in introducing the bill that it was my intention to recommend to the government that we should appoint the chairman immediately, that is, a full-time or permanent chairman, but that for a period at least we should have temporary appointees who are members of the staff of the department. We have two members in that capacity. My reason for so stating was that the period may be very short, as was said by the hon. member for Melfort. If it is quite short it does not make much difference which way it is done. It will be only a short time that there will be officials of the department on the board. If it is a period of considerable length there will be considerable expense which I do not think is absolutely necessary. However, I will take into consideration, and bring before the government, the suggestions made by members of the committee with regard to this point. One or two suggested that a full-time committee should be appointed immediately.

Mr. HATFIELD: I presume, since this does not include wheat, the chairman would be an eastern man.

Mr. GARDINER: We have enough divisions in the country now without putting that in the bill.

Section agreed to.

On section 9—Powers of the board.

Mr. WRIGHT: With regard to paragraph (b) of subsection 1, will the board be empowered to purchase products for which the provinces have set the standards? I believe there are certain products for which the provinces have set the standards. Will the board accept those standards or set their own?

Mr. GARDINER: So far as I can recall at the moment, in connection with most of the products such as live stock, the standards are set by the federal authority. The provincial authorities in some cases are cooperating with us. That is, if the commodity is taken in within the province and sold within the province we have no authority to do anything about it. What happens is that the provinces appoint our officials as their officials and they do work relating to the grading and standardizing of products. I think there will be no difficulty about having it operate in either way. I think in some cases it is done now. Where they are the authority they do the work; where we are the authority we do the work, and there is full cooperation as between ourselves and all the provinces.

Mr. HATFIELD: Will this board have the power to buy and sell, manufacture, export and import?

Mr. GARDINER: It can only purchase Canadian products. It does not import. It deals only with Canadian products, but it can make any kind of arrangement for the disposal of farm products, whether by export—

Mr. PERLEY: There is no provision anywhere in this bill for the purchasing of live stock products.

Mr. GARDINER: While it does not so state, it makes provision to cover every product of every farm.

Mr. PERLEY: I think it would be worth while to have it stated in the bill that there is that power.

Mr. GARDINER: The bill covers every product on every farm.

Mr. PERLEY: Can the minister state that there is power here under certain circumstances for the board to purchase live stock?

Mr. GARDINER: They can, yes.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: In connection with paragraph (c) I asked a question this afternoon whether it was the intention to establish participation certificates. This paragraph provides that the purchaser shall be paid the difference between a price prescribed by the board with the approval of the governor in council for such product and the average price, and a little later on in subsection 3 of section 10 provision is made that if there is a net operating profit to the board in any fiscal year it shall be deposited to the credit of the consolidated revenue fund. In what way would it be possible for a profit to be secured if the price that is being received on the sale of these products, less the administrative expenses, is paid to the producer?

Mr. GARDINER: Well, just reading it hurriedly I do not think the proviso in subsection 3 of section 10 prevents participation certificates from being given. It states:

Provided that the net operating profit of the board in each fiscal year, as reflected in the said account, shall be deposited to the credit of the consolidated revenue fund as revenue; and provided further that the net operating loss in any fiscal year may be recouped to the said account from moneys appropriated by parliament for the purpose.

I would think, and I am just expressing an opinion—I do not know whether the Minister of Justice will agree with it or not—that, as the thing proceeds, anything that may be done under the other sections they have the