

Canadian Livestock Feed Board

transporting it. In order to avoid the possibility of any conflict of interest on the part of the members who will constitute this committee, let us spell out that it shall be composed of individuals representing organizations like the U.C.C. or farm co-operative organizations of any kind so long as they are not now in the business of buying, selling or transporting grain.

We have all observed such a conflict of interest in the Wheat Board which has on occasion asked the brokers to indicate what prices will be. The Wheat Board has given brokers the opportunity of selling grain which it bought from western farmers. This is the type of thing we do not want to take place. Speculators might give false reports which the board would rely on and it would be a long time before the resulting mistakes could be corrected.

Let me repeat that we are not as concerned with who is appointed to the board, as with who is not appointed to it. There should be some amendment in respect of this clause dealing with the advisory committee to prevent the possibility of what I have suggested happening. There should be no opening which would allow a speculator in this field to become a member of this committee. Such an occurrence could ruin the effectiveness of the program we have in mind.

• (4:00 p.m.)

Who is going to be on the receiving end again? It will be the eastern farmer or the British Columbia farmer who will still be wondering what is wrong with his prices and why things are not as they should be.

The board might have its own opinion but most of the time it will follow the advice of the advisory committee. This committee should be at least independent of what we might call the commerce of feed grains. The U.C.C. should have its representatives on the committee. The advisory committee should also consult people who do at the moment or will in the future handle grain, who are in the transportation business, the storage business, the selling business or are millers of any kind. It should be the task of the advisory committee to go out and see these people, obtain their views, grievances and opinions, as well as those of the farmers, and draft a report for the board. I want the minister to assure the house that there will be no conflict of interest in the advisory committee in this regard.

[Mr. Langlois (Mégantic).]

Mr. Patterson: Mr. Chairman, could the minister indicate to the committee just what procedure will be followed in the appointment of the members of this advisory committee. Is it to be on the recommendation of the various farm organizations of the areas concerned, or just what procedure will be followed?

Mr. Sauvé: Mr. Chairman, we will follow the procedure adopted with regard to the Canadian council on rural development, namely, consult the various organizations and ask them to submit one, two or three names. Then we will decide on the appointments to be made from the people recommended by the various organizations.

Mr. Herridge: Mr. Chairman, the members of this group are very concerned about the composition of the advisory committee. That is why when we were last considering this clause I asked the minister who would comprise the advisory committee. If I remember correctly, the minister said that it would be composed of representatives of the farmers organizations in Canada. With that assurance we thought that the farmers' organizations were quite capable of bringing to the attention of the minister any suggestions or recommendations they might have with respect to the administration of the board. In order to assure members on this side of the house what the composition of the committee is likely to be, would the minister mind repeating what he said with regard to those he intends to appoint to the advisory committee?

Mr. Sauvé: As I said in answer to the hon. member's question of last Friday, as reported at page 8496 of *Hansard*:

They will be appointed on a regional basis and will represent farm organizations.

I said we would seek the advice of the farmers' organizations, ask them to submit one, two or three names and then select people from the names submitted to us.

Mr. Langlois (Mégantic): I quite agree with that so long as it is the farmers' organizations who submit the names. If the farmers' organizations were to submit lists of names it would prevent any come-back in the future and somebody saying that the people appointed to the committee were just a bunch of political hacks.

Mr. Sauvé: I would point out, Mr. Chairman, that it is not the board that will appoint members to the advisory committee; it is the