

the Act goes on to say that the secretary of the department shall spend such sums as are necessary for the work of the board. Therefore the board is not only dealing with money voted to it by Parliament on the recommendation of the minister, but is also in a position to receive bequests from persons interested in scientific matters and who consider that the members of this board are the men most suitable to follow up scientific research in this country.

Hon. Mr. THOMPSON: Have they had donations of that kind?

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: I am not sure whether they have had or not; but I think that, inasmuch as they have that power, that point should be taken into consideration at the present time.

A great deal has been said about the minister not having sufficient control over the board. Only the other day we had a similar instance when we were discussing the question of the Pensions Commissioners. The leader of the Government, who presides over that department, had to admit that he has very little control over the Board of Pensions Commissioners. From the information that we have received, I think the question of control is one that we really need not consider, because the control of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries over the Biological Board, as provided for in the Act of 1912, is very much greater than that which my honourable friend the leader of the Government in this House admitted having over the Board of Pensions Commissioners. In fact, I might almost say that he admitted that he had really little if any control at all. I do not think the argument that this Bill should be put through on account of the minister not having sufficient control over the board is a good one. This board has been established for the purpose of carrying on scientific work. It is composed of gentlemen who are carrying on this work because of their interest in such matters and their desire to benefit the country by giving their services and their knowledge, which I do not think any honourable gentleman will question, for the advancement of science. Furthermore, the chairman of the board at the present time, is an official of the Department of Marine and Fisheries. If the board has been doing things, as has been suggested in this Chamber, which are not in accordance with the wishes of the minister, surely the minister is in a position to deal with the chairman of the board

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just as effectively as he would with any other official of his department.

The evidence adduced before the committee showed that the members of the board had always been ready and willing to do everything they could to carry out the wishes of the department. The only case that I can think of in which there seemed to be a conflict was one with regard to the examination of halibut on the Pacific coast. It was explained that in that case the amount of money which the board considered necessary for carrying on the investigation was considerable, and the department did not see their way to giving the money at the time. I think the money had not actually been voted by Parliament; I presume the department, on account of other expenses, did not feel justified in coming to the House and asking them to vote the money. The consequence was that the board did not feel justified in starting the investigation.

I do not want to take up the time of the House any longer. I have simply tried to make this plain statement so that the members of the House may understand the situation.

Hon. Mr. MURPHY: Are not you going to move that we do not go into Committee of the Whole?

Hon. W. B. ROSS: I understand that there is a motion to go into Committee of the Whole. I do not want ultimately to kill this Bill, but I should like to defer it; and I think that taking a vote now would not have the result of killing the Bill, but of holding it over until next session. I do not want to give a final judgment in this matter. If I vote against going into committee, I want to guard myself and say that I may ultimately vote for the Bill.

The motion of Hon. Sir James Lougheed was negatived: yeas, 12; nays, 18.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK moved the adoption of the report of the Special Committee to which was referred Bill 106, an Act to amend the Biological Board Act.

The motion was agreed to, on the above division reversed.

#### CANADA GRAIN BILL.

SECOND READING—CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE—THIRD READING.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED moved the second reading of Bill 153, an Act to amend the Canada Grain Act.

He said: Honourable gentlemen, this Bill is made up of certain amendments to