

*French Treaty*

Mr. FIELDING: One schedule covers all in the bill.

The CHAIRMAN: These separate schedules are part of the general schedule.

Mr. MEIGHEN: So they are all carried in the one schedule.

Mr. FIELDING: That is correct.

Schedule agreed to.

Bill reported.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: When shall the bill be read a third time?

Mr. FIELDING: Is there any objection to its being read now?

Mr. MEIGHEN: Next sitting.

## ITALIAN TREATY

Mr. FIELDING: I have not given notice, but perhaps the House will be prepared to take up the Italian treaty at once. I do not think it contains anything contentious.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: As I take it—my hon. friend will tell me if I am wrong—what is done in the Italian treaty is in short to make Italy one of the most favoured nations.

Mr. FIELDING: Yes, to give and receive favoured nation treatment.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: It is free of a lot of objections that can be urged in connection with fixed duties?

Mr. FIELDING: I do not wish to press it. I have not given notice of it.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: But I do not know what other members think of it.

Mr. FIELDING: Let it stand for another day.

## TESTING AND INSPECTION OF SEEDS

House in committee on Bill No. 12 respecting the Testing, Inspection and Sale of Seeds, Mr. Gordon in the chair.

On section 2—Definitions:

Mr. MEIGHEN: Perhaps the minister would explain for the benefit of those of us who are not on the committee on Agriculture what is the effect of the amendments that have been made, prefacing that by a general statement of the purpose of the bill.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I did not expect to go into committee on this bill to-day and I have only a copy of the amended bill here without the new sections underlined, as I

[Mr. Meighen.]

generally have them in a case of this kind, so I shall have to ask the chairman to read the amendments made by the committee.

The CHAIRMAN: Section 2 was amended in committee by striking out paragraph (h):

"Plants" means any agricultural or horticultural plant.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: "Agricultural plant" means a plant from a hot house or one of a supply of such as cabbage plants or tomato plants. It was thought by the horticulturists that plants should not be included in the Seed Act.

Mr. MEIGHEN: What is the general purpose of the legislation? Has the minister done away with the Seed Commission of western Canada and if so why?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: This has nothing to do with the Seed Commission. This is the Seed Control Act dating back to 1903, I think, and has to do with the grading and specifying the grades and the qualifications of the various seeds that are placed on the market by our seed merchants. That is the main feature of it. The act has been consolidated twice. It was first consolidated eleven years ago, and this is the second consolidation. It specifies, particularly, the seeds for export and import; also the quality of the seeds sold by our various seed merchants throughout Canada; indicates the quality of those seeds and the name of the grades. The Seed Commission that my hon. friend refers to has to do more with the disposition of what we call commercial seed grain distributed from our different systems, mostly in western Canada. Well, not necessarily all western Canada; it has been distributed all over Canada but mostly from the West as a base of supplies. That has not been dispensed with. The commissioner is employed and paid a per diem allowance when his services are required. There has been very little distribution of seed this year. Owing to the fact that the crop was so generally distributed over the West there has been very little demand for the use of this commission. However, it is in existence yet and can be called into requisition at any moment.

Mr. MEIGHEN: This is the work that is under Mr. George Clark, is it not?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Yes. Clause 3 contains provisions as to the sale of clovers, grasses, seed grain and fodder seeds. An addition has been made to clause 2 of the bill a provision to the effect that "grass, clover and alfalfa seeds that may be graded Registered