

if you will. Their point was that the imitators should not be allowed to use the word "maple" at all, and with that view the minister's predecessor and the Minister of Agriculture sided and took very strong ground before the committee. I think the minister should give some better explanation of this change of policy.

Mr. BLONDIN: My hon. friend knows that there are articles on the market which are really not maple syrup, and on which the word "maple" does not appear.

Mr. ROBB: They would not bring the price they would fetch if the word "maple" were on them. It is the word "maple" that gives them value.

Mr. BLONDIN: First of all, if you want to use the word "maple" you have to put it in a conspicuous position. The section says:

No person shall keep for sale, offer or expose for sale, or sell, any article of food resembling or being an imitation of maple sugar or maple syrup, or which is composed partly of maple sugar or maple syrup and which is not pure maple sugar or pure maple syrup, unless the article itself or the package containing it is labelled with the words "imitation maple sugar" or "imitation maple syrup," or "compound maple sugar" or "compound maple syrup," as the case may be, in a conspicuous place on the article itself.

Mr. PUGSLEY: If my hon. friend reads the whole section he will see that the word "imitation" need not be on it at all. A man might sell a compound, having on one side the words "compound maple syrup" and on the other side "extra pure article," and that would give the impression of being the very best kind of maple syrup. The word "imitation" need not be on it at all under this section.

Mr. TURRIFF: What is the object in allowing adulterated maple sugar and maple syrup to be put on the market at all? We in the West do not produce any maple sugar or maple syrup, but we buy a good deal; and many times we have bought what purported to be maple syrup or maple sugar, but what turned out to be an imitation made of yellow muscovado sugar. Why should manufacturers be permitted to do that? Why does not the minister settle the whole matter by imposing a heavy penalty on any one who sells in any shape or form adulterated maple sugar or maple syrup that purports to be the real article? He should allow the sale of pure maple sugar and maple syrup and nothing else. By this Bill

the minister is allowing anybody to sell adulterated maple sugar or maple syrup. This will only make matters much worse. Why does not the minister continue the policy of his predecessor a little further and impose such penalties on the man who is found selling adulterated maple sugar or maple syrup that he will never do it again? That would overcome the whole difficulty.

Mr. DOHERTY: I do not know that I am very well versed in this question, but I should like to know the object that is sought to be attained by insisting that there should be no possible method by which a man might make a compound of maple syrup. Whether or not it is desirable to allow such compounds to be sold I am not prepared to say. But when the word "adulterated" is used, it always gives the idea that the article is being set up for something that it is not. What is not quite clear to my mind is this: Why should we prevent a perfectly honest man from making a syrup of which maple may form one of the component parts, a syrup which is cheaper than the pure maple syrup, and which some persons are desirous of buying? I should like to know what harm is going to be done by allowing that man to put his ware upon the market with the statement staring everybody in the face that it is what it is, that it is not maple syrup, but an imitation. Perhaps some better word than compound could be found. I understand that the purpose of this legislation is to make any man who wants to sell such an article as I have described tell the public that it is what it is, and that it is not maple syrup. If it be an evil to allow people to make a compound of maple syrup, then this course may not be a desirable thing; but if the evil consists simply in a man's selling as maple syrup what really is not maple syrup, it seems to me this Bill will aid in counteracting the evil, and it will not produce a result whereby you would prohibit a man perfectly honest from making an article of which maple syrup might form a component part, and which is cheaper than the pure article.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: I do not know whether the minister has received any correspondence on the subject, but I have from parties who strongly object to the Bill. Their objection to it is this. Maple sugar and maple syrup are peculiarly Canadian products, and the makers of these articles are anxious to have maple sugar and maple syrup known on the mar-