

Mr. WEAVER asked the Minister of Agriculture—

1. If he will endeavour, as a member of the Australian Wheat Board, to give effect to the wishes of the wheat-growers in having Mr. Clement Giles, the representative of the growers on the Board, made a member of the executive committee, so that he will be in daily touch with the work of the Board, and can thereby carry out the duties expected of him when elected to the position?

2. If he will, as a member of the Australian Wheat Board, take steps to have the Australian Wheat Board enlarged to include a representative of the wheat-growers of each State, and duly elected by the wheat-growers?

Mr. OMAN (Minister of Agriculture).—Having only recently been appointed Minister of Agriculture, and consequently a member of the Australian Wheat Board, I have not yet had an opportunity of giving these matters attention. However, they will have my fullest consideration.

EUCALYPTUS INDUSTRY.

Mr. WEAVER asked Mr. Angus (Honorary Minister) (for the Minister of Lands) the following questions:—

1. If he is favorable towards the encouragement of the eucalyptus industry?

2. If he will bring in a Bill to give security of tenure to lessees?

3. If he will endeavour to improve the marketing facilities, and generally look into the difficulties with which the industry is being carried on, and remove any injustices?

Mr. ANGUS (Honorary Minister).—The answers to the honorable member's questions are—

1. Yes.

2. The question of the amendment of the law to permit of the issue of leases will be investigated.

2. The control of the eucalyptus industry generally, as regards Crown land, rests with the Minister of Forests, and the matter will be submitted to him accordingly.

I might state that the Minister of Forests has been busy with important public business, and has not had time to investigate the matter.

POLLARD STANDARD.

Mr. HALL asked the Minister of Agriculture—

If anything has been done in fixing the standard of the quality of pollard as sold to dairymen; if not, what action does he propose taking for the protection of dairymen and to punish adulterators?

Mr. OMAN (Minister of Agriculture).—The question of fixing a standard for pollard is at present receiving attention.

It is anticipated that a satisfactory determination will soon be arrived at.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Mr. ELMSLIE moved, by leave—

That leave of absence be granted to the honorable member for Abbotsford (Mr. Webber) and to the honorable member for Dundas (Mr. Slater) for the remainder of the session.

The motion was agreed to.

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. BOWSER (Premier).—I understand that the House will now proceed to the election of its Chairman of Committees. There are, I believe, several candidates for the position. Honorable members will now have an opportunity of nominating their Chairman. Nominations are now called for.

Mr. ROGERS.—I do not think there will be any. I wonder who will speak first.

Mr. LEMMON.—If there is to be any difficulty about nominations, I do not mind taking the position myself.

Mr. STEWART.—What is the salary attaching to this position? In the interests of economy, I understand—

The SPEAKER.—There cannot be a discussion on that matter at present.

Mr. J. W. BILLSON (*Fitzroy*).—We have in the House a considerable number of new members who do not quite understand the forms. We ought to extend to these new members every possible facility. If the honorable member for Swan Hill had known the forms of the House he might have put his question by leave.

The SPEAKER.—It does not follow that an honorable member can speak by asking for leave.

Mr. J. W. BILLSON (*Fitzroy*).—I am suggesting to the honorable member that if he asks for leave he may be able to get all the information he desires. He apparently simply wants to ask a question, and I am sure that the Government will be willing to answer it.

Mr. BOWSER (Premier).—The House appears to be in a coy mood on this question. It is a very important one, and I regret that such a situation has arisen. In the circumstances, I move—

That the honorable member for Toorak, Mr. Norman Bayles, act as Chairman of Committees for this day.

Mr. ELMSLIE.—I do not know whether we are quite in order. I understood