

regulate the trade. They should regulate their feeding to extend their killing as long as possible. That should be a suggestion to the farmers of the Dominion. They should fatten early and then fatten late, so as to extend the killing season as long as possible. I think this remit No. 10 may do good and can do no harm.

*Mr. W. G. Foster* (Wellington Meat-export Company).—Do you propose that the farmers should place the stuff they kill in the hands of the companies to hold as long as they like?

*Mr. Lysnar*.—No; so long as the market requires, in the farmer's own judgment. Let the companies say to the farmers, "If you wish storage, we are going to stop killing at a certain time, but we will store for you for so-long." At present the freezing companies bustle the stuff out as quickly as possible into the ship.

*Voices*.—No, no.

*Mr. Malet*.—I rise to a point of order: The mover resumed his seat and then got up again, and I do not think this motion has been seconded.

*Mr. Lysnar*.—I was answering a question. I am subject to the ruling of the Chairman, of course.

*The Chairman*.—The motion has not been seconded.

*Mr. C. H. Ensor*.—I shall second that motion simply for the reason that I consider, if we want to make use of the storage here, let us do so. Sir George Clifford told us there was storage for two and a half million sheep, which is half the output of New Zealand, and if we want to make use of that storage let us do so.

*Sir George Clifford*.—Yes, but there is no freezing company which denies storage to any reasonable amount; but you must put a maximum or a minimum number which they can be compelled to take. It would never do to keep the freezing-chambers chilled for a number of sheep which would be out of all reason so far as the cost is concerned.

*Mr. Murray*.—I can confirm what Sir George Clifford has said, that in Canterbury so far as my company is concerned we have been able freely and readily to meet all the demands made upon us in the past; there requires to be no resolution so far as this district is concerned.

*Mr. Borthwick*.—I have never been refused storage yet by any freezing company in New Zealand.

*Mr. Kettle*.—I think the remit is fair and reasonable as it is worded. I am rather surprised at Mr. Lysnar talking about the farmer holding back his stock, when he knows very well that it depends upon the feed how long the stock can be held back. It is different in Canterbury, where you are feeding upon turnips. In the North we are dependent on grass, and we have to send forward the sheep when they are ready. If the dry season comes in, we find that the farmers must and do rush their stuff into the freezing-works, and beg the works to take it before it gets beyond freezing quality. I should suggest that it would be very reasonable to expect every freezing company to have storage accommodation according to its killing-capacity. I think that is reasonable, and it would get over all the difficulties of storage. It is not a good thing to hold stuff in New Zealand in store, because we all know that every week it deteriorates.

*The Chairman*.—I should like to ask how it is proposed to regulate shipments. We do not recognize the Government or the freezing companies as controlling authorities at all. How do you propose to regulate the shipments?

*Mr. Malet*.—If you read the resolution you will see that steps should be taken to regulate the shipments as far as possible. But when this Conference rises, who is to take action to give effect to this resolution? The resolution is incomplete. This is an abstract statement, and instead of being a Conference this will soon be a debating society. Surely there must be somebody appointed to give effect to this resolution.

*Mr. McQueen*.—I think we should not allot that work to any one; it cannot be done; the motion should be passed as it is. I suppose Mr. Lysnar, as a North Island representative, might think it would be a good idea to hold back the South Island meat until the North Island meat is marketed. We in the South Island do not like to keep the sheep eating our dry feed any longer than we can help; we want to get rid of them, and we are quite ready to take the market value; we want them frozen as soon as they are ready.

*Mr. Lysnar*.—In reply to the Chairman's question, my idea was that the producer should regulate that, but the accommodation should be given to the producer by the freezing companies.

*Mr. J. C. N. Grigg*.—Any of the freezing companies will give that space. We have always given space to the farmers when they wished to store. You cannot compel anybody to store, but it is to their own good to store. You might as well ask the London people to clear the stores so that there will be space for the meat; they do.

*Mr. Lysnar*.—In reply to Mr. Kettle: I think Mr. Kettle could not have been following my remarks in the first instance when he said that we have to consider the weather and the feed. I realize this; but I say we should not stop the flow of our stock. That was the principle upon which my remarks were based: as the flow comes in, it must be dealt with; if it is possible to hold back the carcasses for a while, so much the better, but it is not possible to hold back the stock indefinitely. I regret that Mr. McQueen should make such a ridiculous suggestion as he made just now, and try to point out unnecessary difficulties.

*Mr. Malet*.—Pardon me, sir, but this is Mr. Lysnar's third reply.

*The Chairman*.—We shall now take the motion.

Motion lost—For, 10; against, 14.

*Mr. C. H. Ensor* (Canterbury Agricultural and Pastoral Association).—I have been asked to propose remit No. 11, "That it be a recommendation to the Conference that a representative be appointed to represent the New Zealand producers at the Vienna Congress next September, with the view of opening Continental markets." I dare say you know there was a Congress held in Paris to promote the interests of the refrigerating industry, to bring before the Continental people