

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: It is all based on wheat; these other grains are being brought into line with wheat. You have to have a starting point; in other words, you cannot have one quota for oats and another quota for barley. The quota of six bushels per acre is the basis for the starting of the arrangement, and, as I have stated in the examples which I gave, they come out evenly.

Hon. Mr. Crerar: But I do not see where that is provided for in this legislation.

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: I took it up with the Minister of Trade and Commerce, and he told me that was the case.

Hon. Mr. Haig: It is provided for in the legislation on the \$3,000 basis. If you keep that in mind, you will get it right.

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: You may ask why the amount per bushel is fixed at 50 cents for wheat, 20 cents for oats and 35 cents for barley. The reason is that we had to arrive at a sum which would be somewhere near one-half of what the farmer would receive. By fixing the amount per bushel in that way it obviates the expense of inspection, grading and that sort of thing. As honourable senators know, there are five or six grades of wheat, perhaps as many grades of barley, and several grades of oats. In each case the expense of inspection and grading is saved.

These cash advances will be made up until June 1, 1958, and in subsequent years from the beginning of the crop year, August 1, until June 1 in the following year.

I should like to inform honourable senators that there are approximately 231,000 permit holders, and their 300-bushel units amount in all to 69 million bushels. Perhaps I should go further and mention that there are 62 million specified acres. By doing a little arithmetic, it is easy to figure out what would be the total if everybody applied for a cash advance. But of course everybody will not apply.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: What would it amount to if everyone did apply?

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: I think it is \$186 million. The calculation is made by multiplying 62 million by 6 and taking half of it.

The reason why everybody will not apply for cash advances is that there are already quite a number of Prairie points where a one-bushel quota has been set, in addition to the unit, and in some places a two-bushel quota has been set. Those quotas will be deducted from the six bushels in arriving at the amount of advance which the farmer may obtain. But as I pointed out in the example I gave a few minutes ago, the unit is not deducted.

Hon. Mr. Golding: Would the honourable senator permit a question before he leaves the marketing end of this scheme? It has been stated to the house that an attempt is being made to put the producers of wheat, oats and barley on an equal level, or as nearly equal as possible. Is that the suggested plan?

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Golding: I should like to know whether as much difficulty is being experienced in the marketing of barley and oats as in the marketing of wheat. That is my first question.

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: I do not think there is very much difference. We are shipping feed oats and barley to Ontario and the Maritimes under the freight assistance arrangement. Barley for malting purposes is an exception; some producers have been able to grow malting barley and ship it out by the carload. But that is taken into consideration in the total amount which such a producer can market.

Hon. Mr. Golding: Secondly, would the honourable senator tell us what is the carry-over in each case with respect to oats and barley?

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: I do not have that information for my friend tonight.

Hon. Mr. Golding: The point I wanted to raise was, if these two grains are selling freely without any heavy carryover, what is the necessity of providing for them on the same basis as is being provided with respect to wheat growers?

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: I can assure my honourable friend that there is a large carryover in both oats and barley.

Hon. Mr. Golding: That is what I want to know.

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: I shall try to get those figures for my friend.

The cost of this scheme is estimated to be between \$100 million and \$150 million. If the total cash advances amount to \$100 million, the interest charge would be \$2½ million; if the advances amount to \$150 million, the interest charge would be \$3¾ million. But it is not expected that the total cash advances will go as high as \$150 million, because of the fact that already certain quotas have been delivered, which quotas are deducted from the amount on which the producer can get a cash advance.

I am sure it is quite obvious that the providing of cash advances of \$100 million to \$150 million will benefit the whole economy of the country. The banks will loan the