

price and anyone can buy wheat above that price. If a producer in a far distant locality is unable to sell his wheat he can sell it to the board at the fixed price and the board then makes provision for its export to the markets of the world.

There is a second principle in this bill with respect to the producer. It was decided that he should share in any surplus which might arise because of the operations of the board. Objections were made to the initial payment and it was pointed out that certain difficulties had arisen in the past and it was undesirable that a fixed price should be paid. That fixed price does not determine the ultimate price which the producer will receive as he is to share in any surplus which might result from the operations of the board. In connection with the producer there are two principles, the fixed price and the sharing in any ultimate profits which might be made. Through this equitable distribution every man will receive for a bushel of wheat the same price on a Fort William basis if he delivered it to the board.

We return now to the next item, the duties of the board. The board is to be prepared at all times to buy wheat and pay for it a fixed price. That fixed price having been determined and the board having paid it, as it will be obliged to do under this bill, it then must consider the next point. How would it be sold? The hon. member for Shelburne-Yarmouth and those associated with him kept pressing the point with respect to sales, and there was introduced into this bill—I got their notes and tried to give effect to their view—the provision that the board should sell its wheat at such price as might be considered reasonable with the object of promoting the sale and use of Canadian wheat in world markets. That is the principle that governed Mr. McFarland's operations in every particular. The board must regard as reasonable the price at which it sells. Then we come to the next point, which is that it should take over, secondly, the wheat of the Canadian wheat producers; and I pointed out this evening in answer to a question asked that the present thought in our minds was that you would substitute the board for Canadian Co-operative Producers Limited with respect to wheat and wheat only. With respect to other grains they have a small quantity worth half a million or so and the board would not have anything to do with that. That is the position of the board. But it did not end there. What is the provision contained in clauses (i) and (j)? In order that this institution, which it is said has not had a fair chance, should have an opportunity to function with-

out restriction, it is provided that existing facilities shall be used without discrimination. The board shall give an opportunity to these people to sell wheat on the markets of the world; these institutions that have been built up during the years shall be allowed to function for the sale of the product of the producer in the markets of the world, through established channels and existing facilities. You will find that set out in detail in this bill:

in selling and disposing of wheat as by this act provided, to utilize and employ without discrimination such marketing agencies, including commission merchants, brokers, elevator men, exporters and other persons engaged in or operating facilities for the selling and handling of wheat, as the board in its discretion may determine.

That is just what Mr. McFarland has been doing during the last five years. When he came into office he stipulated one thing and it was that every existing facility of the pool with respect to sales abroad should be withdrawn—why? Not that he did not believe in them; not at all, but the charge had been unjustly made, that the pool had not been utilizing existing facilities and therefore drawing down on its head the condemnation of these old established facilities going back for centuries, instead of that he felt that they should be withdrawn and existing facilities used.

Does this committee realize that neither Mr. McFarland nor his agency has offered for sale abroad, through their agents, any wheat but always through existing facilities, utilizing them to the full? These same men came to the committee and spoke about the facilities they had abroad, and they have been utilized to the full all these years. No effort has been made to substitute new facilities for those that have been in use. But because of the fact that they may fail it is provided in (j) of section 8 that while they are offering continuously wheat for sale in the markets of the world through the established channels the board may set up their own agencies if the other agencies are not functioning satisfactorily. That is a development of the principle that if you cannot get from others the service you require on the basis of paying for it the usual price fixed by statute, you will have to establish your own agency. So much for that.

Sections 9, 10 and 11 were sections dealing with elevators and facilities, and these sections remain in the act. That is the next principle. They are to come into operation by proclamation if, as and when it is thought desirable by the government of the day that it should be done. If the government of Canada believes that in the public interest