

of the cheaper export rates which then prevailed. This transportation subsidy was granted for the purpose of attempting to encourage the breeding of livestock and poultry in parts of Canada where the feed was not grown in sufficient quantities to allow the industry to develop. Since the war the position is relatively unchanged. There have been controls on feed importation to encourage the development of feeds in Canada. Not all have been under control. Corn has been under the control of the wheat board, and I understand the vegetable protein sources like soya beans and soya bean meal have been under import control.

As I said a little earlier before the doors were opened, I have placed before honourable senators a group of statistical tables entitled "Statistical Information with regard to the Livestock Feed Assistance Bill." I may say that these tables, which I am not going to table, will be referred to in the order in which they appear in the document placed in the hands of all honourable senators.

Table No. 1, on page 1 of the document, indicates the need in tons of feed grains in central and eastern Canada. The figures were given for the year 1964 for the provinces from Ontario eastward to Newfoundland, and the quantities are significant. On table 5 at page 2 is shown the transportation subsidy which has been paid in the form of freight rate assistance for western grains to British Columbia and to the eastern Canadian provinces, with prices fixed at the Lakehead. The totals are not given. Perhaps it would be of interest to know that in the peak year in which the subsidy was paid, which was the crop year 1958-59, over \$22 million in assistance was expended by the federal authority. The low year was the crop year 1962-63 in which some \$15½ million subsidy was paid, and I think the average seems to run pretty close to \$17 million a year. This was approximately the amount paid in the crop year 1964-65. The amount of shipments of western grain will be found on page 3 of the documents which I have supplied, which indicates the shipments of western grains and feeds into eastern Canada and British Columbia for the crop years 1949-50 to 1964-65. These reached a total of 2½ million tons in the crop year 1955-56, and a low—and not very much of a low at that—in the crop year of 1961-62 of 1,900,000 tons. In addition to the matter of the transportation subsidy for the shipment of grains, it was found too that the problem of storage costs was increasing the problem for the breeders.

On page 5 of the document supplied, honourable senators will see an indication of where in eastern Canada—east of the Lakehead, that is—the storage facilities are provided, and the total licensed capacity at these points for the storage of grain outside the navigation season, namely, during the winter months.

I would also direct honourable senators' attention to page 6 of the document supplied, in which an indication is given of the stocks of western wheat, oats and barley in storage in eastern Canada in terms of thousands of bushels. This is given for the crop years 1961-62 through the crop year 1965-66.

Perhaps I could point out one or two figures on this table which would be of interest to honourable senators. In the crop year 1961-62, in the first week in December there were over 20 million bushels of wheat, oats and barley in storage. In the following April over 9 million bushels were still in storage. The holdover in the crop year 1963-64 was 7¾ million bushels. So honourable senators will see—and this is one of the first problems that has to be dealt with by the department in this exercise—that while storage was essential in order to stabilize price and to make feed available to eastern and western breeders, there were still some discrepancies in the way the storage facilities were handled, and there was a great supply of grain in storage at the time the new navigation season opened in the Great Lakes.

One of the complaints made is that there have been price variations, and rather wide price variations, between the cost of feed grains to the breeder in mid-winter and in mid-summer. Table 20 on page 7 is helpful in this respect. This page contains an index guide—not a price guide—highlighting the higher unit prices at various times both for feed and animals from the calendar year 1963 through the calendar year 1965. I may say, and the table so indicates, that the index numbers of feed prices and prices of farm animals and farm animal products by months in this period are based on a figure of 100 for the crop years 1935-1939.

Some figures shown here are perhaps indicative of the problem too. In the year 1964, in the feed column, honourable senators will see that the feed index in October was 218.6. The following April, 1965, that index had risen—which means that the price had risen in accordance with the index—from 218.6 to 248.5. I cannot translate this in terms of price, but it is an indication of the extent to