

By Mr. Charlton:

Q. Yes, would you believe that statement or disbelieve it?—A. Well, I would not agree with that statement, I do not see any reason why it would not be as good. If you gave me the situation involved in the case I would soon look into it.

Q. Apparently it is not and even to the point where they pay a premium price to get the grain.—A. I do not know what you mean "for the service". We have oats and barley at the lake head and we sell them to anybody who wants to buy them. We give them the documents and they can dispose of them as they see fit.

Q. If you order a car of grain today through the board it might take two months before you get it. But if you order that car of grain through a broker, you will get it next week.

Mr. GOUR: Suppose you divert a car, let us say, from Ottawa or Montreal. Suppose I am short of feed and I take a running car. I have to pay more because it is a running car and it is transferred, let us say, from one railroad to another or from one station to another. That is the quick service that we get from the board.

Right Hon. Mr. HOWE: If you buy from the board in store at Fort William, then it is up to you to get the grain loaded. You may not be as clever as the broker, perhaps, with that particular movement.

The WITNESS: Well, of course, you will find brokers who will praise the Wheat Board and brokers who will damn the Wheat Board depending on exactly what their views are.

By Mr. Charlton:

Q. Is there any pressure brought to bear upon them that they should deal through a broker?—A. No.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions on this part of our report? If not, I think we shall turn to the exhibits. Exhibit I "Consolidated Balance Sheet". Are there any questions? Shall the item carry?

Carried.

Exhibit II. Shall the annex carry?

Carried.

Exhibit III. Shall the annex carry?

Carried.

Exhibit IV. Shall the annex carry?

Carried.

Exhibit V.

By Mr. Charlton:

Q. Mr. Chairman, with respect to exhibit IV I see there is an item entitled "Drying, reconditioning charges, grade adjustments, etc.: \$2,574,625.67". That would be grain which comes in with probably a high moisture content.—A. Yes. That chiefly is a charge in connection with wheat that went through Vancouver. Alberta was unfortunate enough to have a late harvest and they had a lot of wet grain which had to be dried before being shipped overseas.

Q. The farmers have to pay for it?—A. Yes. It comes out of the pool.

Q. That would be a lower grade and he would get a lower price for it?—A. He gets a lower price in his initial payment.