

in the elevator for the grain the elevator man gives him a cash ticket for the initial payment on that load and enters it in the book; so that at all times, no matter where that producer markets his grain, the elevator agent at the point where he takes the grain will know exactly how much grain the producer has marketed and will not allow him to market any more than his quota. It stands to reason that if the farmer is unable to get his grain into the elevator he is also unable to get any cash and will therefore find himself in a poor cash position.

**Hon. Mr. Reid:** What quota is allowed?

**Hon. Mr. Aseltine:** Well, he has a 300-bushel unit. In some places they have a one-bushel quota, but that only gives the farmer a few dollars, and he needs more money than that. I shall give all of this information later on.

While I am dealing with the marketing of wheat, oats and barley, may I say that the Wheat Board has no control over flax, rape seed or rye. Any farmer growing these grains can market them wherever he can find a purchaser, and in most cases the elevators have found room for a reasonable quantity of flax and rape seed. The quota for flax right now is five bushels per seeded acre. Most producers who have grown flax have marketed that number of bushels, and have a little money on hand as the result of being able to sell their five-bushel quota.

Honourable senators, I have said that ever since 1950, or thereabouts, the farmers have not been able to dispose of the fruits of their labour and have been demanding that some provision be made for cash advances on grain that has had to be stored on their farms, because they were unable to get it into the elevators and therefore were unable to sell it. Farmers have spent large sums of money to build granaries and other forms of storage to hold their grain safely until such time as it could be marketed. I have spoken on the question in this house on several occasions. Promises have been made in Parliament by the members of the present Government, and also during the recent election, to bring down legislation similar to the provisions of this bill, which is intended to implement those promises. No one for a moment will claim that this is a cure-all, but it is hoped that if the bill is passed it will enable farmers who have grain on hand and cannot get it into the elevator to receive some money with which to pay their debts and carry on through the winter. The bill provides for cash advances to be made by the Wheat Board on wheat, oats and barley on the basis of a six-bushel quota per specified acre. The term "specified acre" may

need some explanation: If I have a quarter section of land, and have 100 acres of it under cultivation, my specified acreage is 100, and if there is a six-bushel quota I can deliver at the elevator 600 bushels of wheat. If I have a half section of land with 300 acres under cultivation, my specified acreage would be 300 acres, and so on.

It is proposed to make a cash advance of 50 cents per bushel for wheat, 20 cents per bushel for oats, and 35 cents per bushel for barley on a quota of six bushels per specified acre. Possibly I can explain that best by giving some examples. We will take a 100-acre specified acre farm with a quota of six bushels per acre. Six bushels per acre on a 100-acre farm is 600 bushels. The producer gets a cash advance of 50 cents a bushel on those 600 bushels, which amounts to \$300, but this is in addition to the 300-bushel unit which every producer is allowed to deliver at the beginning of the crop year. The fact that he has already delivered his 300-bushel unit does not prevent him from obtaining this cash advance.

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald:** How much does he get on the 300-bushel unit? Does he get the full price?

**Hon. Mr. Aseltine:** Yes, he gets the full price. He gets an initial payment, and the balance when the Wheat Board makes further payments.

In the case of oats, the producer gets for 100 specified acres a cash advance of 20 cents a bushel on 1,500 bushels, which gives him \$300, and this puts him in the same class as the man who is marketing wheat. In addition, he gets an 800-bushel unit, which every oat producer is allowed to deliver at the beginning of the crop year.

In the case of barley, if we take the same-sized farm, the producer gets for 100 specified acres a cash advance of 35 cents a bushel on 857 bushels, which gives him \$300. In addition he delivers his 500-bushel unit, which every barley producer is allowed to deliver at the beginning of the crop year, and he receives the money for that also.

By this scheme the men who grow grain, whether wheat, oats or barley, are all placed in the same position. The six-bushel quota is the starting point.

**Hon. Mr. Crerar:** Will my honourable friend permit a question? This is a point on which I am not very clear. Let me read the relevant section in the bill.

The quantity of grain in respect of which an advance payment may be made to a producer shall not exceed the quantity that would be deliverable under the applicant's current permit book on a quota of six bushels per specified acre.

The six bushels refers to "grain", not to wheat.