

be incorporated in legislation, which is not the case now. Presently, it is incorporated in order in council. There is no feed freight assistance legislation.

Mr. OLSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kirk, I have a question to put to you which is supplementary to Mr. Olson's penultimate question.

In reference to clause (c) you mentioned that the advisory committee would be composed of persons formally representative of organized farm groups in eastern Canada and British Columbia. I think we all feel that eastern feed grain policy affects western Canadian farmers. Had you considered whether or not there should be representation from the prairies on this advisory group?

Mr. KIRK: No, Mr. Chairman, we do not have a recommendation that this be done. The wheat board does not have eastern representation on its advisory group, and the feeling is that it would be quite satisfactory to have representation from only eastern and British Columbia interests.

We do have the Canadian Federation of Agriculture in this country and we hope this does not mean that there are two completely separate departments considering how this whole thing works out. We think we can do a job in that connection.

The CHAIRMAN: But it is your hope that you might have someone on the board?

Mr. KIRK: We will in the sense that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture is made up of all these constituent organizations; in this sense we will have people on the advisory board or, at least, that would be my expectation.

The CHAIRMAN: I just wanted to clear that up.

Mr. JORGENSEN: I was more particularly concerned about the reasons for this change, the discussions that led up to it and why it was felt that this agency should have its powers extended. If you would, I would like you to give us some idea of the thinking behind the change in this policy.

Mr. KIRK: Mr. Jorgenson, you know the kind of questions your committee has been dealing with and how you have been trying to get to the bottom of these things. We have discussed this extensively. We did that the last time I was here. We have to ask ourselves what the problems are in respect of feed grains, to what extent are the prices excessive to feeders, and what the reasons are for all these things.

Mr. Chairman, I do not pretend to have all the answers to these questions nor did I then. But, so far as I can make out, it was recognized and accepted, from the experience of the eastern Canadian users of feed grains, that all too frequently, especially in the wintertime, there were fluctuations in feed grain prices which had nothing to do with the fluctuation of the prices of supplies, but that all too frequently there was a need for some rail movement. In short, the minimum cost to the feeder is related to the Fort William price, and the availability, as it pertains to the basic price level of feed grains, is not achieved. This is what I am saying in this short submission. How often is this the case? I do not know what precise steps in terms of purchase, storage and sale will have to be taken to combat it, but we do have to have that power so that it can be combated when it occurs.

During our discussions delegates have stood up and said that farmers during the current season of 1964-65 had experienced shifts in the price of feed grain which were unrelated to lakehead prices. They said that they had, in fact, experienced this and they did not think these things should occur.

The CHAIRMAN: Have you a question, Mr. Jorgenson?

Mr. JORGENSEN: This bears out some of the evidence I produced to the committee, which showed that prices in the east were unrelated to the very