

Q. And with respect to the export of those beans, was that not made more or less as an experiment for future markets?—A. I could not say that exactly. I think the export was arranged through the efforts of the Soybean Growers Marketing Board; that is the information which I had. I am not sure of all the reasons behind it, but I do know that at the time these export arrangements were made the price of soybeans was low.

I think it was about as low as it had been in Ontario for some years, and in order to stimulate the price paid by the companies I think this export was done, as well as to determine whether there could be future export markets.

Q. I know that in my own county of Leeds this year—I think I am safe in saying—the growing of the soybeans has probably increased 100 per cent from what it was a couple of years ago. Many of the farmers are going out of the dairy business and going into grain. Is there any variety of beans which would grow higher on the stalk than other varieties?—A. Well, we released a new variety last spring which we call “Comet”. This variety carries the beans probably 2 or 3 inches higher off the ground than most of the other varieties.

Q. We have considerable difficulty with harvesting the beans.—A. That will depend to some extent on the conditions at the time of planting. If it is cool and you get low growth, then the branches will be lower than they will be where the soil is warm and you have warmer conditions. It may make a difference of 2 to 3 inches.

Q. And you think that we can get away from the weed problem with preparation of the soil beforehand and with extra cultivation?—A. That is right.

Q. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. White.

By Mr. White (Middlesex East):

Q. I have one or two questions following up those of the member for Leeds. How great an export market do you think you could develop?—A. Well, I could not say. I do not think I can answer that question except in this way, that in the United States they expect that there can be developed a market for 100 million bushels in Europe. They have exported as much, I think, as about 75 million bushels in a single year. Last year it was down to about 50 million bushels; but they believe that if their acreage expands and there is greater production, more than they need, there is a potential market for possibly about 100 million bushels a year in Europe at the present time.

Q. It would seem that if we produce the quality of beans which suits the European markets, that they would buy them in preference to the American beans?—A. They have been dissatisfied to some extent because of the foreign material. There is a certain amount of dirt in the beans. There has been a fairly general complaint about it among all European importers with respect to American beans; but that complaint has not been made in connection with Canadian beans.

That condition may be brought about because many of the United States beans are trans-shipped from the central states down to the southern states and then shipped again. I think possibly that is where it happens. But in Canada they are loaded directly on the boats and they go over in much better shape.

Q. One other question; would you explain how it happens that since the export market was developed, and not until that time, did the price to the growers increase?—A. I am afraid I could not explain that.

Q. I happened to have some beans—what few I grow—and they were in the shipment from Port Stanley; until that market developed the price of beans was around \$2 on the market.—A. I think I mentioned that it did help to stabilize the price, but why, I do not know.