

Dr. BARTON: Control measures through culture, seeding and so on, that will probably restrict the actual crop seeded this year.

I have one thought in mind in regard to the wheat situation, which I pass out to you. It is to some extent closely related, I suppose, to the use that is made of wheat for feeding. I think that if the reserve of wheat were distributed more widely than it is among the farmers themselves, there would probably be some likelihood, and certainly more opportunity, of it being used for feed than when it is concentrated in large quantities at central points.

I am not a Western man, so my contact with Western conditions is limited. I spent two months there last summer, and visited the West on different occasions previous to that. I have made a number of contacts, personally and officially, and I have been struck, particularly this year, by the fact that people who have little or no crop have no reserve of any kind. Now, if not only wheat, but other grains were carried in some reserve on these farms, as is the practice to some extent in the East—and as you know, probably better than I do, it was the regular practice in olden times on our farms to carry a reserve of corn and grain, sometimes far in excess of the requirements for a single year—there would be a security, and it would allow of a flexibility that is not possible where people work on a year to year basis.

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: I read in the daily paper that cattle are dying around Brockville for want of feed and that the farmers cannot afford to buy it.

Dr. BARTON: There may be some extreme cases, but I would not suppose the condition was general.

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: What did you say was the amount of the crop last year?

Dr. BARTON: Our total crop last year was 269·7 million bushels; the carry-over was 207·11 million bushels.

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: Can you give us any idea how much of that crop of last year consisted of grade 3 wheat or better?

Dr. BARTON: I cannot give you the proportion of the grades.

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: What I had in mind was this. The No. 3 and better is what we call our contract wheat.

Dr. BARTON: Yes.

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: If some scheme could be worked out whereby everything lower than that grade could be used for feed, that wheat could be put into cattle and hogs and used to fill our quota of cattle and hogs to Great Britain. Then we would not have much more than the quota of wheat that we can send to Britain. We could turn the low grades into cattle and hogs and ship them over. Have you done anything along that line?

Dr. BARTON: I have not made any calculation as to the proportions, but I suppose it is to be expected that that is the type that is going into feed.

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: Have you done anything towards encouraging the farmer in that direction, and to bring up the quota of cattle and hogs?

Dr. BARTON: We are attempting that, I suppose one might say, from two angles, one being the improvement of the grade of wheat, and the other, of course, the encouragement to feed low grade wheat and the dissemination of information as to its value and the uses that can be made of it. Much work has been done and is being done in this direction.

Hon. Mr. RILEY: In the section of the country that I come from there was very little wheat below No. 3. Most of it was No. 1 and No. 2. Of course we had a very light crop by reason of the drought.

Dr. BARTON: Yes.

Hon. Mr. RILEY: And on top of the drought we had a severe frost which destroyed thousands of acres of wheat when it was in the blossom, and shortly