

that the wheat board is empowered under the policy to take 65 per cent of a man's wheat acreage for 1940—it does not make any difference what he produced on it then, or what he will produce on it this year—and then state that the first quota is to be five bushels to the acre on 65 per cent of his last year's acreage, and they say, "You can deliver so much wheat." Take, for example, the case of a man who had 100 acres of wheat last year. They say to him, "This year your quota is to be based on 65 acres"; they multiply that 65 by 5, and they get his first quota, which is 325 bushels. Then, according to my understanding of it, before allotting a further quota they learn what is the production in different areas this year, and the quota which is to be given over and above the five bushels will be based upon the productions of the different areas. In other words, there will be a larger delivery in the high production areas than in the low production areas. But that quota, again, is figured out on the basis of 65 per cent of last year's acreage. That principle obtains all the way through.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): Not on production?

Mr. GARDINER: Not on production. Let us carry the illustration one step further, and take round figures, as being easier to work out at the moment. Suppose a farmer's quota in the area in which he lives is, finally, 10 bushels; he thinks he can grow 20 bushels to the acre; he puts in his wheat on 40 acres, instead of 100 or 65, and he grows 800 bushels of wheat. His quota at 10 bushels to the acre is 650 bushels, so that he has off 40 acres his quota plus his seed for the next year. The other provision applies to the reductions which are being made on the acreage, from 100 to 65.

Mr. ROSS (Souris): The quota would not be based on anything less than the marketing area? It would not be based on an individual's production?

Mr. GARDINER: I understand it is the marketing area.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): What would be the marketing area? Would it be the shipping point?

Mr. MacKINNON (Edmonton West): The shipping station, yes.

Mr. McNEVIN: I wish to make a brief remark or two with regard to the importation of 2,000,000 bushels of corn. In Ontario the poultry business is a large enterprise; manufacturers of prepared poultry foods import almost every year, and I believe will continue so to do, substantial quantities of corn in order to mix in with their prepared chicken feed and poultry feed. I believe that unless

[Mr. Gardiner.]

some system is devised whereby western Ontario corn can be dried satisfactorily for poultry food, no matter how much oats or millet or barley we produce in Canada, we shall still bring in from the United States or the Argentine a fairly substantial quantity of corn for that specific purpose.

Another point I desire to emphasize is this. On Monday of this week the Secretary of Agriculture for Great Britain announced to British farmers that within the next six months they will have substantially to deplete their herds and not keep them in the condition in which they have kept them in days gone by. That is an indication of what is ahead. We have been supplying large quantities of feeds of various kinds to Great Britain, and that market is curtailed, just the same as is our market for wheat. In times past, Denmark has consumed large quantities of Canadian barley. That market is also shut off. Much the same condition applies with regard to the coarse grains markets outside Canada as applies with regard to wheat.

With respect to the Ontario farmer benefiting by getting this cheaper feed, I want to point out this. Large quantities of western oats and other grains come into this province for other purposes. Lumbering institutions in some parts of the province still use a good many horses, so that a fairly substantial quantity of western grain comes in for other than stock feeding purposes. I had in mind the importation of a million bushels of this barley and oats, but let us put it at two million bushels. Do not forget that Ontario itself pays one-half of that subvention. If you take 100,000,000 bushels and bonus barley and oats in the west and bring it out to a percentage so as to see how it applies in Ontario and in the west respectively, you will have this result. At one end of the scale you will have one pound for the Ontario farmer, and at the other end of the scale you will have 100 pounds of bonused feed grain for the western farmer. We maintain that this is not a fair division. I believe we produce 527,000,000 bushels of coarse grain in the dominion from thirteen to fifteen million acres. To bonus that at \$2 an acre would require approximately \$30,000,000. If we are going to adopt that policy, let us treat all farmers equitably.

Mr. GARDINER: I do not wish to argue the question with the hon. member for Victoria, Ontario. I only wish to place the facts before him and I think I have done that.

Mr. McNEVIN: Does the minister intimate that I have not placed the facts before the committee?