

Hon. Mr. CALDER: I cannot see it.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Let me try to clear this up. The price is largely fixed in Liverpool or London. If we have had good weather it is known there, and if the grain harvested is dry the price is on the up-grade. In good years anybody who has tough grain gets a better price, but he gets it at the expense of the man who has the very dry grain.

Hon. Mr. CALDER: How can that be avoided?

Hon. Mr. HAIG: The honourable gentleman from Saltcoats (Hon. Mr. Calder) is right and wrong, both at the same time. If there is not very much tough grain the man who has it can make practically  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cents a bushel by mixing, and it does not cost him anything to do it. But the buyer in Liverpool, knowing that mixing is permitted, will not pay as much for No. 1 as if the other system were in effect.

Hon. Mr. CALDER: What troubles me is the fact that the Board of Grain Commissioners have allowed this very thing to go on.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: I know it, but you cannot find a farmer in the West who is not very much afraid of mixing.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: But it has occurred.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: If I am a grain buyer for a miller in London, and I know that mixing of any kind is not allowed in Canada, I will pay a much better price for the grain than I would if I knew the elevator company could mix it so as just to skin the 14.4 requirement. The dry grain is better for milling purposes. Remember, rain and snow are not the only things that cause damp grain. We have in Western Canada a system of combining which was brought in because of the high cost of labour. Under this system the grain stands in the field. It may be that a man has a field of 160 acres of grain which is not quite ripe, but very nearly so. He will go in and cut it before it is ripe, because it may be hailed out, or may be blown out by a heavy wind. That grain is tough, because it is a little green. It is put in the stook, where it dries out and matures.

Hon. Mr. BUCHANAN: How often do they combine wheat when it is not fully ripe?

Hon. Mr. HAIG: They do it in Manitoba frequently. The honourable senator comes from Alberta, where the weather is very dry. But that is not the real issue. The real point is that once the European buyer knows we allow mixing, the price of No. 1 goes down.

Hon. Mr. BALLANTYNE: Mixing has been going on for the last ten or twelve years under regulation. Would the honourable gentleman tell us how it has worked out?

Hon. Mr. HAIG: It has worked out to the advantage of the elevator companies and nobody else. Every farmer in Manitoba will tell you that. I can understand Milliken and his company being in favour of this, but the ordinary farmer does not want mixing in any form. I know what I am talking about, for I have lived in that country. My father farmed there before me, and I am now farming myself.

Let us take potatoes as an illustration. Potatoes are graded. If the mixing of potatoes were allowed you would soon have a similar protest from the producers. The honourable senator from Peel (Hon. Mr. Marshall) says what is allowed under this Bill is not mixing. But it is the first sign of mixing.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: If the honourable gentleman is right as to his facts, I should think every objection which is tenable in the one case would be tenable in the other.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I suggest that we return this Bill to the Committee on Banking and Commerce and ask the experts from the Department of Trade and Commerce or the Board of Grain Commissioners to appear and justify this amendment to the committee.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Is that satisfactory?

Hon. Mr. HAIG: To me it is.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: It seems to me that on such a matter as this we are entitled to the best information the Government can give us.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. CALDER: I quite realize that conditions may vary from year to year, and that if there is anything of this kind it probably should be fixed annually by the Board of Grain Commissioners in accordance with the conditions. I am assuming the Bill is going through.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: Does the honourable leader of the Government wish to return the Bill to the committee?

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I want to give all the satisfaction I can.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Carried!