

Q. That is one problem he has had to face. He has not had the box cars. I am glad to have that principle established, but it seems to me at the present time where he is going to deliver is decided entirely by the Wheat Pool; they now allocate the grain orders to the various companies as they decide; and there may be a problem ahead of us in regard to being sure that we are getting a fair share of the business.

At the present time I understand that is the way it is done. The Wheat Board says: we order the pool to deliver so many hundred cars of a certain grade of wheat from a certain area; and they order one of the line companies to deliver so many cars of wheat of a certain grade from a certain area. You will arrive at a time when there will be free deliveries and there will not be the congestion there is today. It might be a determining factor and might keep control over wheat deliveries because it is going to be business on the basis of the orders that are given by the Wheat Board to the elevator companies.

The other premise you made today was that the president of the pool stated that they had 100,000 members at the present time. I think that is a misapprehension. I think it is likely the record would show the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool in the whole term of its operations in the last 28 years has had 100,000 members.

The CHAIRMAN: No.

Mr. STUDER: That was in respect to a question I had asked Mr. Wesson when I made the comparison of deliveries and he mentioned he had about 100,000 members—close to 100,000 members.

The CHAIRMAN: Why not let the record speak for itself.

By Mr. Castleden:

Q. I think they probably pay out dividends to about 80,000 farmers. Many of them have retired over the years. But, I do think this is true that there are probably 70 per cent of the active farmers in the province of Saskatchewan who are pool members and if so I would say that the pool if it were allowed free delivery would probably handle between 60 and 70 per cent of the grain. Owing to the distribution of boxcars they have not been permitted to deliver to the elevator of their own choice.—A. I would not agree with you, and I will tell you why. Do you want the answer?

Q. Yes.—A. Any farmer can become a member of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool by the payment of \$5.

Mr. ARGUE: \$1.

The WITNESS: That is even better. I join quite a number of organizations and pay \$1 or \$5, but it does not mean that I give my heart and soul to them. Those men who join—first let me tell you I know because I was with the co-operative movement in Saskatchewan and I started off in the grain business with the Saskatchewan Co-Operative Elevator Company and I know something of cooperatives and of the loyalty which exists among some members. Some of them are merely there to get patronage dividends. It may be that some of these pool members were customers who could not get into our elevators at some time and who had to deliver their grain to a pool elevator. Naturally they will take the patronage dividend, but to get it they have to pay the \$1 to be a member. Maybe they are customers who have been in the pool, but they have not sold their business for all time to come to the pool by any means.

Q. I was not implying that.—A. I read your statement in parliament that 70 per cent of the grain did go into the pool. 70 per cent has never gone into the pool. 45 per cent would be about the average. For a few years it might have got up to 50 per cent. I will go to a free delivery period. Take