

Mr. HANSEN: The Saskatchewan people are very concerned about this point because they feel there is a principle involved. They feel it is the basic right of a producer to be able to deliver to the elevator of his choice they feel the way it is being done now when box-cars are distributed, to a point equally among elevator companies that some producers are forced to go to another house despite their preference—they have no say in the matter. They are forced to deal with the person who has the room and I am sure if you took a poll of farmers in Saskatchewan, wheat producers, you would find that 75 per cent of them at least feel that this is a principle that must be established. It has come up during recent years in time of congestion but it is something that must be looked into very thoroughly because people are becoming quite alarmed about it.

Mr. ARGUE: What percentage of producers would you say support the suggestions advanced by the Wheat Pool organization as to a method by which box-cars can be allocated in such a way that farmers can deliver to elevators of their own choice and more specifically my question is to what extent do producers support the suggestion that box-cars be allocated on the basis of a weighted acreage vote by the producers concerned?

Mr. HANSEN: Our annual convention passed a very general resolution . . .

The CHAIRMAN: Are you talking about Saskatchewan or the Interprovincial Council?

Mr. HANSEN: I am talking of Saskatchewan. We passed a very general resolution on this question that box-cars should be allocated so producers would have the opportunity to deliver to the elevator of their choice. Certain members of the board met with the Wheat Pool to work out what we thought would be a proper system of implementation and we have as a union in Saskatchewan endorsed the proposals put forward by the Wheat Pool and are working hand in hand with them.

Mr. ARGUE: Do you know of anybody in Saskatchewan or any other part of western Canada who is opposing the suggestions of your organization or the pools?

Mr. HANSEN: I have never heard of any opposition.

Mr. MANG: To what extent in your opinion would the farmers be prepared to tie themselves up to one particular elevator whether it is pool or not for the duration of the crop year? I mean, specifically declare: "This year I am going to haul all my wheat to a certain elevator." In your opinion how would that angle appeal to the farmers, to tie themselves to one man, one elevator regardless?

Mr. HANSEN: We did not and I am sure the Wheat Pool did not envisage having a policy whereby the producer would indicate that they were going to haul all of their grain to one particular elevator. We feel that he would indicate a preference and box-cars would be allocated accordingly. In case he got into a dispute sometime during the year and wished to switch to another house he would do so recognizing that box-cars would be allocated according to the original preference he had given.

Mr. MANG: If he then goes to other elevators due to disagreement or due to the inability to get sufficient box-cars there and he goes to other elevators, wouldn't you be back to where you started; I mean, you are using all the available elevator space there is, the individual you want to do business with. I am just looking for an opinion. I am as much interested in box-car distribution as anybody, but there is just that point—how willing is the western farmer to tie himself to one elevator and one man in the practical operation of this