

declining at some particular time, then the asset is also declining in value, and who will pick up the tab for the loss in the value of the asset?

Mr. KIRK: You are now asking me a very real and very important question which relates to the agency functions and the way in which it must do its job. Again, all I can say is that I do not know the answer to all these questions.

I hope, Mr. Beer, that we will arrive at answers to that problem. Do not misunderstand me; I hope we will and I think we must. However, I do not have the answers today. That is all I can say.

The CHAIRMAN: I have Mr. Whelan and Mr. Vincent on my list of speakers.

Mr. WHELAN: Mr. Kirk, I am very happy about this new approach to grain marketing by the federation of agriculture in comparison with the other approach. The old approach was like an old bulldog without teeth, whereas this is like a young pup developing its teeth. We will have to see where it goes from there if the government follows the suggestion of the federation.

The experience in Ontario last fall showed that there is a very definite need for some assistance. The problem was not looked after properly by the trade who generally buy the grain, and quite a chaotic situation was created.

During the recess I have attended some meetings from which I know that our producers are quite happy with this suggestion.

I do not think I have any question to put to Mr. Kirk. I merely wanted to make that comment. Most of my questions have been well covered by other members.

Mr. VINCENT: Originally I had many questions to put to Mr. Kirk on this topic, Mr. Chairman, but many have been answered now. However, I must say right away that I am very happy about the statement by the federation of agriculture.

I would like to ask one question in connection with the resolution which was passed by the federation in Regina. Under clause (c), is there any objection to having representatives of feed mills or the feed trade on the advisory committee which you recommend be composed of persons representing organized farm groups?

Mr. KIRK: No, our recommendation is that all the representatives on the advisory committee will be producer representatives. They might be representative of producer co-operatives in part, but our view is, as is the case with the wheat board, that this is an institution set up in the interests of producers and should have producers advising it.

Mr. OLSON: You are talking about livestock producers not grain producers?

Mr. KIRK: Is that a question?

Mr. OLSON: Yes. Please clarify what you mean by producers.

Mr. KIRK: I mean producers in eastern Canada and British Columbia. To a very great extent they would of course have an interest in livestock production; they would be consumers of feed grains. Our policy does not necessarily confine the representation to this group. You have producers of grains in eastern Canada, do you not? Our policy does not exclude some representation by those people.

Mr. VINCENT: But feed mills in eastern Canada may buy from this agent. A group of feed mills which might represent producers could perhaps have a representative on the advisory committee? Would that be possible? Do you have any objection to that?

Mr. KIRK: Producers might be represented, as I say, by co-operative representatives who are in the business, I quite agree.

Mr. VINCENT: I am referring to private feed mills.