

Agricultural Products Board

was \$4.36 higher and in the last week in March it was \$3.91 higher. In the first week of April it was \$4.21 higher in Toronto, and in the last week of April it was \$2.18 higher. In the first week of May it was \$4.04 higher and it was \$5.24 higher in the last week of May. In the first week of June it was \$5.20 higher and in the last week of June it was \$6.06 higher. In July, the first week, it was \$6.22 higher; the next week it was \$7.15 higher; the next week it was \$6.99 higher; and the next week it was \$5.52 higher. Then coming down to August it began to go down; it was \$3.98 higher in Canada the first week and \$4.67 higher in the last week of August. Then the last week in September it is down to \$2.02 higher; and during October it was \$1.18, \$1.29, \$1.58 and \$2.59 higher. Now, in November, for the first week it was \$2.89 higher on the Toronto market and \$3.51 higher on the Toronto market for the second week of November.

That is why I asked the hon. member for Selkirk yesterday, when he was speaking, why he started in July instead of starting in March. In other words, the matter of when a farmer is going to sell his hogs is entirely in the farmer's own hands, apart from the fact that his thinking is regulated by the weather. A farmer can have hogs coming in in July if he so wishes, or he can have them come in in March if he so wishes. That is, he can have them come on the market at that time, depending on when he breeds his sows and the period over which he feeds his hogs. But as far as I am concerned personally—I am not speaking for any other farmer, but I find that many of them do the same kind of thinking as I myself do—it costs me too much to have hogs coming in in July, to have them bred at a time when they will be littered when it is thirty degrees below zero in the country that I live in. In other words, I do not have pigs come in at that time because, in the first place, I will lose half of them; and, in the second place, it costs me far more to feed them in the winter months than it does in the summer months. I therefore have my sows come in in the latter part of March or the early part of April and not later than May. That means that I do not have any hogs to sell in June, July or August, or very few. However, I breed the odd sow so that I will have a little bit of money coming in during that period. But most of my hogs are sold at the period when I can produce them at least cost. So the persons who sold their hogs in July obtained as much as \$7.15 higher for hogs sold in July than they would have obtained had they sold them in Chicago at the same time. Then in the latter part of the season when we deliver our hogs in great

numbers we got only \$1.18 higher and in the early part of the season we got \$2.40 higher in January. But all the time, every week of the year, we got more for our hogs in Toronto than producers got for hogs on the Chicago market.

Mr. Wright: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Argue: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Gardiner: Both of my hon. friends who are on their feet had quite a bit of time without my interrupting, and what I should like to say is that in these figures there is not anything which indicates that the United States farmer has a better deal on hogs than we have in Canada. The fact of the matter is that hogs have been selling higher in Canada all during the year; that is true not only of this year but of other years. They have been selling higher in Canada than they have been selling in the United States. When somebody suggested the other day that farmers ship hogs out of Manitoba down to Minneapolis, and that they are turned into pork and shipped back to Winnipeg, may I say that I can hardly imagine a farmer in Canada anywhere shipping many hogs down to the United States during any time in the last year. As a matter of fact, few have been shipped to the United States, and then only in cases where it is done for reasons other than that of supplying pork.

So much for hogs.

Mr. Wright: While the minister is on the subject of hogs, I should like to ask him a question. He was quoting the price of hogs, especially No. 1 hogs in the United States and grade B in Canada. I draw his attention to the fact that the grade B hog in Canada is not comparable with the No. 1 hog in the United States. It is much closer to compare our heavies with grade 1 in the United States, because they market a heavy hog, and they are not the same quality as ours. It makes a difference of approximately \$3. We find that these are marketing at about the same price.

Mr. Gardiner: We took all that into consideration when we made this table.

Mr. Wright: I do not think you have taken it into consideration.

Mr. Gardiner: Maybe I had better put it in *Hansard* and then you can check it because this is what it actually says: "Column 4, choice barrows and gilts at Chicago 200 to 220 pounds". That is the same weight as our choice hogs. Then it gives dollars per hundredweight, live weight, and then it gives the B-1 hog at Toronto, including premium dollars per hundredweight, live weight; then it gives the live weight price of both hogs at both markets, and the differences are as I