

Appendix "J" is the operation of the Canadian government elevators which was extensively referred to.

Carried.

Appendix "K" is the report of revenue and expenditure.

Carried.

Appendix "L" is simply the regulations of the board as listed.

Carried.

Now, is there anything else before we adjourn?

Mr. STUDER: Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a comment, if I may, and that is to express my appreciation at being permitted to be associated with this agricultural committee during the period of time we have had the witness before us. I wish that every farmer in western Canada could have participated in the discussion, and heard the witnesses and others during this past period of time. It almost amounted to a royal commission inquiring into grain handling. The farmers of western Canada are most certainly interested. They are very definitely interested. However I believe that they are somewhat confused out in the west in connection with the operations of grain handling. I think that we, as a body of responsible men should do all in our power to create whatever confidence we can among the farmers. I believe that we, as members of Parliament, are trying to do as good a job for them as it is possible for us to do, and I believe that they have confidence in our work as members.

Mr. ARGUE: Are we on speeches, now, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. STUDER: Yes, we are. Everyone knows that much had been broadcast which was misinformation. I am sure all of us want to tender all the information that we can for the benefit of the farmers. We have heard the different witnesses, and the recommendations of the farmers union. In regard to all the witnesses that have been heard, I have been surprised that they did not recommend any particular change in connection with the operations of the Wheat Board, or of the Board of Grain Commissioners, or in regard to diversion, or in regard to overages. It would seem that they were all in agreement, because there have been no motions or amendments that diversion charges shall be deleted, or that overages shall be disposed of. We have followed a very free and extensive discussion of the rectification of the box car allotment situation and I think that is all to the good.

But some of the things which disturbed me—because I think they affect the confidence of the farmers very much—were the reports made about us when the Board of Grain Commissioners were the witnesses. I offer this suggestion with absolutely no malice or motive whatsoever for what benefit it may be to the farmers in regard to the confidence that they may have in our grain operations and in the principles that operate that business in our western country. I hold no malice against anyone and I give everyone the right to say everything he may wish to say. But I was disturbed when I read the charges concerning the Board of Grain Commissioners, using words such as "inefficiency", and words like "incompetence", "highly excessive dockage", which appeared in certain western papers and on the front pages, and in the words of newsreports such as I hold in my hand from the *Winnipeg Free Press* and other papers in western Canada.

It says: "farmers losing faith in Grain Board."

A CCF member of the parliamentary agriculture committee charged Wednesday that dockage on farmers' grain taken by country elevators is "highly excessive".

The same member also claimed that western farmers are losing faith in the personnel of the Board of Grain Commissioners.