

Q. That is, you could go ahead and make a definite contract, knowing absolutely that you were going to be able to get the wheat?—A. Yes, sir. Not only that, you have not some competitor interfering with your marketing.

Q. And with a voluntary system you would not know anything about how much you were going to get until you got it?—A. That is so.

*By Mr. McMaster:*

Q. But in connection with the voluntary Pool the Government would not come into it at all, would it?—A. I really could not answer that question, Mr. McMaster.

Q. Well, I do not see quite how it would. Let me make my point clear. My friend Mr. Sales asked you to compare, I understood, the risk run by the Government—A. Yes, sir.

Q.—In connection with the Compulsory Pool and a voluntary Pool. It strikes me—and you will correct me if I am wrong—that a voluntary Pool would not implicate the Government in any way?—A. It might not, but on the other hand it might.

Q. It might if the Government made advances to a voluntary Pool?—A. Yes, sir, or guaranteed advances.

Mr. JOHNSON (Moosejaw): Where else would it get the advances?

The Hon. Mr. MOTHERWELL: I think it is assumed that the Government would finance it.

*By Mr. McConica:*

Q. As a matter of fact, the only risk would be in the advance that was made; it might be too high?—A. That is, as far as the Government is concerned.

Q. And if it were made to a voluntary Pool or a compulsory Pool, it would be just the same in one case as in the other, would it not?

Mr. McMASTER: He thinks the compulsory Pool would work better.

Mr. WARNER: Mr. Riddell, I believe, says that the risk would be less because he would know that he was going to handle the wheat and he could handle it to better advantage if he knew he was going to get the wheat to meet his contracts.

The WITNESS: That is my opinion.

*By Hon. Mr. Motherwell:*

Q. In starting operations in the beginning of the season, until you would begin to sell some of the wheat and get the money back into the light—or we might say activity?—A. Yes sir.

Q. Up to that time you would have to have a reasonably substantial line of credit at the bank, would you not?—A. No sir; in connection with that—

Q. The point I was wanting to raise was, did the Government guarantee your line of credit to start with, do you remember?—A. I do not think it was done in that way. I think an arrangement was made between the Government and the banks officially—this is subject to correction, now—whereby the banks would loan money to the trade with some Government guarantee. It never came through the Wheat Board at all.

Q. Anyway, it did not involve any great difficulty in financing it; that is the point?—A. No sir.

Q. Do you remember during the evidence the question came up as to the various powers that the old Board had—I think it was brought up by Mr. Sanford Evans—in enumerating these various powers he pointed out that they had the power to put an embargo on Canadian wheat, did put an embargo on it, going into the United States. Do you remember what the object of that embargo was?—A. First of all I wish to refer to something here in order that it may be quite clear. The shipment

[Mr. F. W. Riddell.]