

Mr. McINTOSH: Read the minutes of the last two years' meetings and see.

Mr. McNAMARA: As I have reported on previous occasions to the agricultural committee, we consider the marketing operations are the no. 1 responsibility of the board; and while the administration of quotas on an equitable basis is very important, it must be secondary to the marketing operations. I think I have reported before that we could probably do a much better job of equalizing quotas if it was not necessary for the board at times to draw supplies of certain types and grades of grain from certain areas. This does result in throwing the basis of quotas out of line at times. I do not regard that as any excuse, but I think it is a reasonable explanation, and I think any marketing board—

Mr. McINTOSH: It is a reasonable explanation if your statement is correct, but I do not accept your statement.

Mr. McNAMARA: Then I am sorry, sir.

Mr. JORGENSEN: Mr. Chairman, I think we are getting away from the subject under discussion, and I think we should be brought back to the question under discussion by the wheat board.

Mr. HORNER (*Acadia*): I agree with Mr. Jorgenson on this question. I think we should deal strictly with the wheat board regulations that have to do with feed mills. I know the wheat board had difficult times with quotas, and I am certain they are doing their best, to the best of their ability, to regulate quotas in a fair and just manner.

I think we should deal with feed mills, and I would like to ask Mr. McNamara how feed mills do their purchasing now. Under what regulations do they purchase their grain now? Do you buy it under quotas?

Mr. KINDT: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, before answering that I would like to clear up one point. There has been a charge made against the wheat board, against the chairman of the wheat board. I think it is departmental policy and government policy that the differential in quotas should be put into effect by the wheat board to take care of damp grain.

The CHAIRMAN: I think we are discussing the feed mills, not the quota system and so on.

Mr. KINDT: I want to clear up that point.

Mr. ARGUE: Mr. Chairman, other people have had a chance to ask questions and get replies; and I think it is only fair I should too.

I have one question on the quota system I would like to ask.

The CHAIRMAN: I will allow this one question, but I hope you will stay away from the activities of the wheat board as far as quotas are concerned. This meeting was called specifically to deal with the feed mills.

Mr. ARGUE: I can agree with Mr. McIntosh to a point, on the great complaint against the inequities that exist. I am not going to oppose the wheat board's policy of taking out-of-condition grain first, because I think it would be a tragic loss of millions of dollars to the wheat producers if this grain had not been moved. But as a matter of equity and justice will the wheat board be able to equalize the quota at, say a six bushel basis at the end of this crop year, so the people in my constituency, in Mr. McIntosh's constituency, and others in southern Saskatchewan, may have a chance to deliver the same quantity of grain as producers in other parts of western Canada?

Mr. BRUNSDEN: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, are we here to discuss quotas or feed mills?

The CHAIRMAN: We are here to discuss the feed mills.

Mr. ARGUE: I think the wheat board are entitled to give an answer to this question, because charges have been made against the wheat board. Others have had an opportunity to ask questions on this point and to get answers, and I think it is a fair question and that we should have an answer to it.