

bushels a day. Naturally, it is more today: We are growing more grain, and we have had some amalgamations. I did not have the resources at my disposal to get the average today, but I am sure it is not keeping pace with the modernization in other industries.

We have another problem with the transportation of grain from western Canada to our ports. Our grain is taken from the country elevator to terminals—whether at Fort William or Vancouver—in the raw state. You are moving the dockage, the weed seeds and cracked grain from the place of the producer down to your terminal elevators, and in some instances moving the screenings back to where they were produced. In my humble opinion, this grain should be cleaned on the prairies, and in the future it will have to be cleaned there.

Hon. Mr. Choquette: This is all very interesting, honourable senator, but what has it all to do with the bill before us? I have been very attentive but I cannot see the connection.

Hon. Mr. McDonald: I do not think you have been very attentive, or you would have heard me say that the bill before us, which is a transportation bill, has a tremendous effect on the facilities that we are going to have available for handling western grain production in the future. What I am trying to point out is the inefficiency of the system today, and that it is high time it was changed. It is my hope that those people charged with the responsibility of implementing programs under this piece of legislation will bear these matters in mind.

Hon. Mr. Brooks: Are the railroads responsible?

Hon. Mr. McDonald: They are responsible for moving the grain from the elevators.

Hon. Mr. Brooks: After it moves out of the elevators.

Hon. Mr. McDonald: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Brooks: You are speaking of the situation in the elevators.

Hon. Mr. McDonald: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Brooks: Are the railroads responsible for the situation in the elevators?

Hon. Mr. McDonald: No, they are not, but if we are to have some adjustment in the railroad system in Western Canada, if some

branch lines are to be done away with, and perhaps some new additions made to the railroad system to hook up two areas that may be several miles apart by a branch line or an inter-connecting line between two main lines, then this is, in my opinion, a golden opportunity for the company that are charged with the responsibility to the country elevator system in western Canada to modernize and bring their elevators up to date.

Hon. Mr. Brooks: I agree with you. It should be done.

Hon. Mr. McDonald: I was talking about removing weed seeds and cracked grain from the grain before it is moved to the terminal elevators. I know that some of this material has gone into export channels, but there is a need, and there will be a greater need, for it to remain in Western Canada. It is estimated that by 1980 the production of red meat on this continent will have doubled. One of the main areas of Canada to double its red meat production is Western Canada, and I think there is going to be great need for all of these waste materials that are included in the grain that is now being shipped to our terminal elevators. It will have to be cleaned before it leaves the place of origin.

Honourable senators, I shall conclude by saying again that this bill gives us a golden opportunity to change some of our old habits in Canada. It gives us a golden opportunity to design the type of country that we would like to leave for the coming generations. To repeat the remarks I made at the beginning of my short address, surely we are not going to let this country grow up in a laissez faire fashion so that it will be unsuited to the generations yet unborn. We have an opportunity in this legislation to do something about that.

I sincerely hope that the 17 commissioners will be the best men available in Canada, and that they will have an adequate staff to do the research so that every decision they make will be the right and proper one. If that is the case then we can be hopeful that Canadians to come will have a better country in which to live—better than that in which you and I have had to live, and it has certainly not been too bad for us.

Hon. Norman McL. Paterson: Honourable senators, before we forget what the honourable senator has said I should like to remark that the first elevator I built cost \$5,000. About two years ago I built one at Broadview that cost \$85,000.