

*By Mr. Harkness:*

Q. Would trucks be included in that?—A. No, trucks are not in it.

Q. I was thinking that the most expensive item a farmer has to buy at the present time is a truck, outside of a combine. Combines and trucks are the two biggest items and perhaps they raise his costs more than anything else.

Mr. McCUBBIN: That might refer to you in the west but it does not refer to us in the east; we do not use combines or trucks.

Mr. JOHNSTON: Your farms are not large enough to warrant that mechanization in the east.

Mr. HARKNESS: In any event, I would think trucks should be included in weighting your farm costs.

Mr. FLEMING: And tractors, too.

The WITNESS: There are tractors, wagons and binders. There is a fairly comprehensive list of farm implements in this.

*By Mr. McCubbin:*

Q. Name them off, Mr. Marshall.—A. These are the items that are included: a walking plow, a disc drill, a hay rake, a binder, a mower, a drag harrow, a disc harrow, a gang plow, a wagon and a tractor.

Q. No tractor plow, it is all walking equipment?—A. There is a gang plow.

*By Mr. Maybank:*

Q. You said, in reference to meats, that you could take several representative cuts and when you put them in you had established something which was representative and that other prices, for example, the prices of the carcasses if they had been put in, would give you the same result?—A. Yes.

Q. Is it a fact that you have proceeded upon the basis that, by putting in those items which you have mentioned you have a satisfactory index for other prices which have been left out?—A. That was the purpose of this index. You certainly cannot put all the commodities in. I am sure that when these commodities were being selected for this particular group we did take the matter up with some of the implement companies and, as a result of our discussions with them—

*By Mr. Harkness:*

Q. If I might interrupt, when was that selection of these commodities made?—A. Just before the war.

Q. That is not a very good guide for the present time, then?

*By Mr. Maybank:*

Q. Let us get the statement which Mr. Marshall was making on the record and then see what we do with it after that. You were saying you had taken these, evidently because they were representative items, and whatever measurement was obtained from these would be found to be the same measurement as would be the case had you included many others; am I right in putting it that way?—A. Yes, that is the basic principle.

Q. Then, you say you started this and you set this up sometime before the war?—A. Yes.

Q. It would appear from the few comments that have been made there have been very considerable changes made between now and then, particularly with reference to implements and machinery generally?—A. Quite.

Q. Have you any means of determining whether or not what you did at that time, before the war, would be the same today if you were aiming at accuracy?—A. We would have the means of checking this matter up with the firms again.