

Mr. HORNER (*Acadia*): How often are these checks made?

Mr. McNAMARA: Not too often recently because during the period when these test cases were before the court, the board waited for the court's decision before instituting further checks or prosecutions. We have resumed again our activities in that regard and our inspectors are active in endeavouring to ascertain how these feed mills are conducting their operations.

Mr. KORCHINSKI: Normally how often would you check?

Mr. McNAMARA: Normally three times a year.

Mr. KORCHINSKI: You can ask them to produce all of their records and they have to comply?

Mr. McNAMARA: Yes. We have authority under our act. In some instances some of the feed mills have refused to make those records available to us and we are giving consideration to what future action we will take.

Mr. KORCHINSKI: Even if they have no agreement with the wheat board?

Mr. McNAMARA: Yes. Because of the fact that they are a work for the general advantage of Canada we have a right to check their records and secure information regarding their activities.

Mr. NASSERDEN: Have you any figures regarding the amounts handled by these non-line mills?

Mr. McNAMARA: Do you mean mills which are not agents of the board and not buying for the board account.

Mr. NASSERDEN: Yes.

Mr. McNAMARA: No. It has been stated the bureau of statistics did make an estimate, but we do not have any definite figures.

Mr. NASSERDEN: You should have figures along that line as they are following your regulations.

Mr. McNAMARA: They do not have to report to us as to their purchases from producers. We are just satisfying ourselves that what they do purchase is purchased within the quota.

Mr. NASSERDEN: Would you care to estimate it?

Mr. McNAMARA: It is difficult to say. I would think the volume would be within two or three million bushels a year in that particular category. That is just an estimate.

Mr. REGNIER: I think the prime function of the board is to dispose of all the grain. At one time there were no quotas. The quotas came in 1940. I cannot understand why the board would insist that grain sold for local consumption be within the quota because the more grain disposed of openly outside of the board the more opportunity the board has to unload grain they buy. The function of the board is being helped rather than otherwise, because after all their function is to dispose of grain. The less grain they have to dispose of within the quota, the less difficult is their function. I do not think it is unfair to those within the quota who are selling directly to the board, because the more grain sold locally the less which has to go through the elevator agency.

Mr. McNAMARA: I do not think I could quite agree with that analysis. I certainly agree it is the job of the board to sell as much grain, as the producers deliver, to the best possible advantage in all markets; but we are also responsible for endeavouring to provide equal delivery opportunity for all producers. To the extent that some producers are allowed to sell in excess of the quota, that grain is sold at the expense of the producers delivering within the quota. To the extent grain is marketed outside the board it retards the ultimate sales the board might make to the same area. We market within the designated area ourselves.