

Mr. ARGUE: Is that type of policy followed with the shipment of other grain?

Mr. RIDDEL: Yes.

Mr. ARGUE: Or just mill orders?

Mr. RIDDEL: It applies also to other grain.

Mr. DAVIDSON: The elevator company places the order with the railway company for the individual car and, if it is on the approved list of the railway company, the car is supplied.

Mr. ARGUE: If you look over a given marketing point and find at that marketing point that a certain elevator has a substantially larger quantity suitable for mill orders than some other company at that point, do you give the company with the largest stocks the preference?

Mr. RIDDEL: No. The company decides the point from which mill shipments will be made.

Mr. ARGUE: Which company?

Mr. RIDDEL: The elevator company receiving the portion of the mill shipment.

Mr. ARGUE: The Wheat Board allocates a total quantity to the various elevator companies?

Mr. RIDDEL: That is right.

Mr. ARGUE: Does that account for the fact that the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool has been able to accept deliveries of a smaller percentage of deliverable grain this season than a year ago?

Mr. RIDDEL: I do not think so, Mr. Chairman. Dealing with the Saskatchewan Pool I would say that the number of elevators and the percentage of storage capacity which they have is smaller in relation to their proportion of probable deliveries than is the case with other grain companies.

Mr. ARGUE: That is not the information I have. Tell me if this is incorrect? My information is that the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool—it could be somewhat wrong, but this is the information—the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool has 43 per cent of the elevator space in Saskatchewan and for the first time for a great many years it is now handling less than 43 per cent of the grain, for the first time, I would imagine, in all history. Certainly for the first time in the life of the Board the orders coming to the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool have been reduced on a proportionate basis, or some other reason is involved which has resulted in the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool losing the position which it had a year ago, and to some extent the position has worsened.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: It has the lowest percentage of handlings now that it has had in the last 12 years, or compared with the last 12 years; they have the lowest percentage now than for the last 12 years, and the allocation of cars has had greatly to do with it. As a matter of fact, some orders have been handed to them by the wheat board.

Right Hon. Mr. HOWE: I think this discussion had better be held when the transport controller appears before us and we can discuss definite situations. He has very complete knowledge of the subject, and I think we should let it go until he is here.

Mr. ARGUE: I do not think I am at variance with the suggestion made by the minister just now, but there is no outlet for grain held by an elevator company in western Canada, that is, the main grains other than through the Canadian Wheat Board.

Mr. RIDDEL: That is right.

Mr. ARGUE: They have to sell through the Canadian Wheat Board?