

Mr. ROBINSON: Yes.

Mr. PASCOE: May I follow that up a little more?

Page 3 shows that the purchases of fresh fruits and fresh vegetables for 1961 amount to around \$51 million or a little more. As a western wheat man, I just received a cheque yesterday for some wheat from which a one per cent levy was taken. That levy against the grower, which the grower pays, is taken out before he gets his cheque. A one per cent levy on this year's figure of \$51 million would be \$500,000. It seems to me there should be some way worked out between the producer and the processor whereby they would perhaps pay half of one per cent into a fund which would produce half a million dollars a year, a fairly substantial sum, for the protection of the producer. Do you not think that could be worked out?

Mr. ROBINSON: I think all these things can be worked out.

Mr. PASCOE: The report from 1961 shows \$51 million for fresh fruit and vegetables and \$81 million for metal containers, glass containers, cartons and so on. Is that an average year or is it an exception?

Mr. ROBINSON: I would say that was an average year. It must be remembered that I have used only the Canadian-grown fruits and Canadian-grown vegetables here. There are always some imported fruits and vegetables, but I did not include them.

Mr. PASCOE: There is another question which I would like to ask in regard to purchases of metal containers and glass containers. How are those manufacturers paid? When are they paid?

Mr. ROBINSON: Mr. Limoges, I believe, could answer this because he is a buyer and I am not.

Mr. PASCOE: Is it cash on delivery?

Mr. LIMOGES: No, it is mostly 30 days, and 10 days one per cent.

Mr. PASCOE: There is one other question which I asked before but it seems that the answer is a little different on page 3 where it is stated that:

The processor, in many instances, supplies the seed or plants and, through his field men, provides the grower with a program for fertilizing, spraying and crop control.

Is that the general practice?

Mr. ROBINSON: Yes. In the province of Quebec that is the general practice. We do supply the seed and they are retained at the end of the season.

Mr. WHELAN: Mr. Chairman, first of all I would like to ask if the witness can give me any idea how many companies who buy the 1,130,000 tons of fruit and vegetables operate under section 88. Do you have any idea?

Mr. ROBINSON: I do not know. I would think the vast majority.

Mr. WHELAN: The large majority of the big companies do not operate under section 88, and they would be the big users. I thought you might have a breakdown.

Mr. ROBINSON: No, I have not.

Mr. WHELAN: Have you checked the accuracy of the number of times a process has gone into bankruptcy when, in the year of bankruptcy, his pack was increased?

Mr. ROBINSON: This would have to be checked.

Mr. WHELAN: We have checked several bankruptcies and we have found that in the year of bankruptcy their packs have increased nearly always by 50 per cent over any other year. Therefore, more assets would have been accumulated for the bank in that year.