

Q. As I understand it, Mr. Milner said that the speculator stayed in the market practically up until the time parliament came in in June, 1932, and he was taking hedges when wheat was as low as 38½ cents. Is that right, to your knowledge?—A. I think the statement Mr. Milner made is perfectly correct. But I think my statement is also correct.

Q. Here is what Mr. Milner said. He was being cross-examined or questioned by the Hon. Mr. Bennett, I think:—

Q. Now, Mr. Milner, surely when wheat dropped—wheat dropped to 38½ cents, didn't it?—A. Yes, 38½ cents.

Q. The lowest price known for four hundred years?—A. Yes.

Q. Who took the hedges then?—A. The speculative trade and the export trade.

Q. Yes, they were taking hedges at 38½ cents?—A. Yes.

Q. All they were offered?—A. Well, there was no other person that took them, other than the ordinary method.

Q. Quite so; and the hedges were not being taken.—A. I don't understand that.

Q. What I mean is that there came a time when there was nobody; the speculative interests were not prepared to continue further buying at 38½ cents?—A. What was the date of that?

Q. I am just asking you. I am putting these in the form of questions, not statements.—A. Yes, I have forgotten the date of that.

Mr. PORTEOUS: January, 1932.

The CHAIRMAN: It was after the 1931 crop was being marketed, in the spring.

WITNESS: I think perhaps that is fair if it was January, 1932. But to show that the market did function during the period of low prices, Mr. McFarland in evidence before the Banking and Commerce commission stated that he did not make a purchase of grain until June, 1932, as a stabilization effort.

WITNESS: That was Mr. Milner's view. He made it perfectly clear to the special committee at that time that he was expressing his own personal views.

Rt. Hon. Mr. BENNETT: No. The reason I asked him that was that Mr. McFarland did not buy any wheat until 1932.

WITNESS: I did not allege that he did.

Rt. Hon. Mr. BENNETT: No. But I asked you about 1931 purposely.

WITNESS: Yes.

Rt. Hon. Mr. BENNETT: You gave an answer at variance with that.

WITNESS: I would still make the same reply, that the forces which ultimately drove the speculator from the market in my judgment began to operate prior to 1931.

*By Mr. McLean:*

Q. Should the low point to which wheat dropped, 38½ cents, not be January, 1933, rather than 1932 as stated by Mr. McFarland?—A. I would have to look up the date. It was quite clearly stated in the evidence that you have in your possession, of last year.

Mr. McLEAN: I think it is accepted that it was the crop of 1932 that went down to that low level, not the crop of 1931 at all.

[Mr. A. E. Darby.]