

Mr. ROWE: That government is through now.

Mr. McLEAN (Melfort): And likely that policy will be through also.

Mr. ROWE: It looks like it.

Mr. ADSHEAD: Does my hon. friend say this is a non-profit sharing organization?

Mr. ROSS (Moose Jaw): Yes.

Mr. ROWE: Do they not sell this seed grain throughout the Dominion in competition with other companies?

Mr. ROSS (Moose Jaw): Yes.

Mr. ROWE: Then how are they a non-profit organization?

Mr. ROSS (Moose Jaw): It is a pool.

Mr. ROWE: But they sell their seed grain throughout all parts of Canada in competition with other seed companies.

Mr. ROSS (Moose Jaw): Surely. It is not their seed they handle, it is the seed of the farmer.

Mr. ROWE: But they are in the commercial business.

Mr. ROSS (Moose Jaw): The wheat pool is in the commercial business too.

Mr. ROWE: Sure.

Mr. ROSS (Moose Jaw): Have you any objection to that?

Mr. ROWE: It is not too good this year.

Mr. ROSS (Moose Jaw): I think the wheat pool has been of great benefit to this country, and the sooner my hon. friends realize that organizations of this kind should be fostered by the government the better it will be for agriculture.

Mr. ROWE: It did not do much good in Ontario this year.

Mr. ROSS (Moose Jaw): So far the Saskatchewan registered seed growers' association have been carrying on as a true pool. They have obtained their finances in this way. Every farmer shipping and selling seed through the association allows to be deducted from the sale price of his seed five per cent, and that five per cent is used by the seed growers' association to finance their operations. That is formed into what is called a revolving fund, and at the end of five years

the 5 per cent begins to go back to the farmer to whom it belongs. Besides the seed pool, there is a pool for each kind of seed which is shipped into the plant. The seed growers' association now pool the freight on the seed from all parts of Saskatchewan to their plant, and it is their intention to pool out the freights as soon as they get proper statistics and data on the subject. This building is not given to them; part of it will be leased to them for the work they are carrying on, and I trust that the Minister of Agriculture will not make that lease too costly to them, because they are doing a work which his department should have been doing in this country for a good many years. If the Department of Agriculture themselves endeavoured to carry out the work which the Saskatchewan registered seed growers are doing to-day it would cost the country a good deal of money. This is a voluntary organization and is the best of its kind for the distribution of those new seeds which are being developed by the Department of Agriculture on the experimental farms. You have here a thousand growers of seeds who specially prepare their land for it, and when a new seed has been developed and the type set that seed can go to an organization of this kind and can quickly be multiplied and developed by growers whose farms are being properly inspected and checked. The seed is kept pure and can be multiplied very quickly so that the country as a whole can get the benefit of it much more rapidly than would be otherwise the case. Too often in this house we criticize the work of the department and of certain servants of the government, or of the people, who are carrying on a great work for Canada in the development of new grains. I have some little knowledge of the system which is employed, having had the privilege of attending an agricultural college some years ago, and I can truthfully say that there is no work which takes so much labour and shows so little apparent result as the work of Mr. Newman and his staff. I do not think there is any department of the government which has done more for this country than that branch has done in the last few years. It would pay every member of this house to take a trip to the experimental farm in Ottawa and to the experimental farms in their own provinces and see the vast amount of work that is being done, and the great good which is being accomplished by these men in the seed branch and in other kindred branches of the Department of Agriculture. I repeat that there has never been a more forward step taken by the Minister of Agricul-