

paragraph (b), in regard to the regulations that are to be made, I read:

(b) determining the person to whom the said sum of five cents per bushel shall be paid and the method of the payment thereof;

I should like to have that explained. Who is going to get the five cents? How is it going to be paid? What is the method to be adopted? When that Bill was introduced the sum of five cents was to be paid only on export wheat, and it seemed at that time probable that the only parties who would benefit would be the transportation companies and the dealers. Perhaps the regulations will be made in such a way that the money will go direct to the farmer who sells the wheat to be exported.

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: According to my information and belief, this Bill is not at all confined to export wheat. On every bushel of wheat that is grown this year and marketed within those three provinces the farmer will receive the benefit of the bonus—if it may be termed such—when he delivers his wheat; and the five cents will be paid in the form of certificates redeemable for the amount. I do not understand that the bonus is to be paid on wheat that the farmer may have in stock, grown last year.

Hon. Mr. FORKE: Oh, no.

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: So I believe that on this year's crop, whether it is exported or not, it is the intention to pay the bonus.

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT: But it must be delivered?

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: Yes.

Hon. J. J. DONNELLY: Honourable gentlemen, I should like it understood that any remarks I have to make are not in opposition to this Bill. It is only under very exceptional circumstances that such legislation could be justified. It is sectional legislation, inasmuch as it applies only to the three Prairie Provinces. I regret, as I think all the members of the Senate regret, that such exceptional conditions exist at present; and in my opinion they justify the Government in presenting this legislation.

My reason for speaking at all is this. There is apparently, both in Parliament and throughout the country, a feeling that in the growing of wheat, so far as Canada is concerned, the three Prairie Provinces have a monopoly, or that they are the only part of Canada that produces wheat in any large quantity. It has been my privilege to drive over a great portion of Western Ontario during the past month or so, and I have been struck with the very

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large acreage that is growing wheat at the present time. The crops are very good.

You might ask, "Why is it that our statistics do not show such a large production of wheat in Ontario?" One reason is that the average farmer in Western Ontario does not place his wheat on the market, particularly when it is at such prices as now prevail, because it is more profitable to feed it to live stock, especially hogs, while the prices of hog products are as high as they are at present. Though we hear very little about Ontario-grown wheat, I may assure the members of this House that the growing of wheat is a very large industry in Western Ontario, and, generally speaking, it has been very profitable.

While we are discussing the interests of farmers in the West, I think I may repeat what I have said in this House before—that with the present land values in Ontario there are much better opportunities for growing wheat on a commercial basis in this province than there are in any part of the West. Land values to-day in Ontario are only about fifty per cent what they were ten years ago, and there are plenty of opportunities for growing wheat, or any other crop for that matter, on a very large commercial scale.

Right Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: May I ask the honourable gentleman a question? I find in section 1 these words:

1. The Governor in Council may authorize the payment, out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, of the sum of five cents for every bushel of wheat grown in the provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba in the year 1931, and delivered to any licensed elevator in the Western Inspection Division, commission merchant, track buyer or grain dealer, as defined by the Canada Grain Act.

When this Bill was first brought down my attention was called to the weakness of this section, for according to my information there is no distinct definition of those different persons in the Canada Grain Act.

Hon. Mr. WILLOUGHBY: I think the term "track buyer" is defined, is it not?

Right Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: I am asking for information. It is a matter for lawyers, of course, but nothing should be taken for granted, because some litigation might arise. If we had a clear definition of those different individuals it might prevent trouble.

Hon. Mr. WILLOUGHBY: I cannot refer you to the Act, but my recollection is that a track buyer gets a licence from the Department. I think the term "grain dealer" is self-explanatory, is it not, and also the term "commission merchant"? I do not think those are technical words. The only word that strikes me as technical is "track buyer".