

independent shipper, and you will observe in the reply sent you by the Committee of the Terminals Elevators; reference is made to the fact that independent shippers now have access no matter by what route they ship to these railway terminals. It is true that this condition has not prevailed in the past, but it is now arranged, and it would seem to me it would afford the Government - if they do not desire to go to the expense of acquiring and operating these terminals - to point out to the applicants this fact, - that inasmuch as they practically admit that the operation of the railway terminals is as satisfactory as Government operation would be; they now have the opportunity of using such independent terminals without any additional expense.

The more I think of it the more I am impressed with the idea which you suggested in a private and unofficial conversation; as the best solution of this whole question in the interests of the Government as well as the country, namely:- The placing of the control and operation of these terminals under a strong Commission similar to that appointed to control the railways of Canada, - and again I am speaking unofficially, as I have not discussed this feature with the Management, but it seems to me that if such a Commission - and no doubt it would be - was composed of level headed business men, with a thorough knowledge of the grain trade and the system of handling it, it would satisfy all reasonable business men, and instead of your Department having to annually meet deputations representing all the different elements interested in the grain trade and the carriers, and trying to change the Act to suit them all; you would only have to make such changes which after a fair test of the operations of the present law, the Commission would recommend as being necessary. This Commission could get the views of all interested and then with their knowledge of the conditions, would only suggest changes as were really essential and necessary for the protection of the farmer or any other element, and when the various complaints are made to the Government by the different interests, they could be referred to the Commission