

Mr. BLACK (Cumberland): What are the different categories?

Mr. GARDINER: The \$1 per acre payment is made in the areas that have an average yield of from eight to not more than twelve bushels to the acre. The \$1.50 payment is made in areas having from four to not more than eight bushels; the \$2 payment in areas having from four bushels down, and the \$2.50 payment in townships in a province where a crop failure area has been declared. The only province last year that had a crop failure area declared in it was Saskatchewan, where there were 260 townships that had five bushels to the acre or less. There was \$2.50 an acre paid in those townships.

Mr. COLDWELL: There is one class of loss that is not covered, and it is difficult to see how it can be covered, namely, damage by flood. It seems surprising to speak of damage by flood in an area that has been afflicted by drought. It does not happen to be in my constituency; it is just over the border; the run-off is largely from my constituency. Several farmers there had hundreds of acres flooded. The district itself had an excellent crop, but these people were faced with a dead loss. The minister knows all about the situation. I do not know if anything can be done in this bill to meet that situation, but since that happens periodically in that district—it happened in 1916, in another year that I have forgotten, and last year—possibly some other action can be taken under the Prairie Farm Relief Act. I bring the matter to the attention of the minister because I said I would.

Mr. GARDINER: The only way in which that particular loss could be covered by this bill would be if the section happened to be in a township which had under twelve bushels to the acre; then they would get assistance like anyone else. In some areas in the west they do have these conditions from time to time; it might happen in a dry season just as well as in another, when a rush of water destroys certain crops. If that were to happen in an area which came under this bill, those farmers would be paid like any others.

Mr. COLDWELL: I understand that, but it was in an area where the crops in the surrounding country were good because of the rains, but these people lost their crop through flood.

Mr. PERLEY: Are there any outstanding claims?

Mr. GARDINER: Yes; there are some all the way through the area, an occasional person who has not been able to prove his right to payment. I do not know whether I

should call those outstanding claims, or claims that have not yet been settled. There may not be any payments made on them. Then there is another type of claim that may have to be met. There were some townships which were not able to satisfy the officials that they were entitled to payment. Some are still making claims. In one township I remember, the yield was 12.04 bushels according to the record; that is just four one-hundredths of a bushel over. There has been a good deal of controversy as to whether it is over or under. We have been maintaining that it is over, and they have been trying to prove that it is slightly under. If they prove that, we will eventually make that payment. There are instances like that where payment has not been made. Then there are some townships, mostly in Alberta, from which claims from certain sections were late in getting in and we were not able to check acreages successfully during the winter. Some were checked this summer; some of these payments have not been made, but the great majority have.

Mr. JOHNSTON (Bow River): Will those payments be made now?

Mr. GARDINER: They will if it is proved that the claimants are entitled to them. Payments to date have been made in 1,889 townships to 57,874 farmers.

Mr. GERSHAW: How much is collected through the one per cent tax?

Mr. GARDINER: I have not the exact figure here; in fact it would be impossible to give the exact figure because it is one per cent on all the grain that is delivered this year, and we have not yet reached the end of the grain year. But the collection is somewhere in the neighbourhood of \$2,000,000.

The CHAIRMAN: Shall section 1 carry?

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): The understanding was that we would allow section 1 to stand.

The CHAIRMAN: I would point out that section 1 is concerned only with the short title, and under standing order 58, paragraph 2, the discussion in committee must be strictly limited to the subject matter of the section under examination. I have allowed a great deal of latitude to hon. members because of the lateness of the hour and the few minutes at our disposal, but I would remind hon. members of the rule.

Mr. GARDINER: Just to clear the matter up, I do not think it will make any difference, because I think hon. members will find that everything they want to ask questions about has been amended somewhere in this bill. All the matters we have had discussion about