

creased use of wheat within the country, or we may reduce production to the quantity which can be used within the country, which, I believe, can be done.

Mr. AYRES. Do you not think that it is a rather difficult proposition to go out into communities in the wheat country, where they can not produce anything else, and urge that reduction? It may be that they can not produce anything else. There are many localities of that kind in the United States, and to say to those people, "You have to reduce your wheat acreage," is a little hard.

Mr. LEGGE. I do not find it so. I have been out into practically every wheat-growing State and have talked to the people collectively, in large groups, and here is the reasoning that was given: "If the last 20 per cent of wheat you grow only results in your getting less financial return for your crop, why grow it?" We say to them, "What benefit is it to you to go on raising that extra 20 per cent if, by doing so, you lower the price for your whole production?"

Mr. AYRES. As you know, there are sections of the country where they can produce practically nothing but wheat.

Mr. LEGGE. There are a few such sections but not many.

Mr. AYRES. There are some wheat-producing States that can, perhaps, produce flax. That can be done in some of the far northern States, and no doubt those people could afford to reduce their wheat acreage and produce something else. I think it is a serious question, whether you could persuade wheat producers in many localities of the United States to decrease their wheat acreage when they have land that can be used for no other crop.

The CHAIRMAN. Take the State of Kansas, for instance; Kansas is recognized as being the largest wheat-producing State in the Union, but Kansas can also produce corn.

Mr. AYRES. We can not. I have been there for 50 years. There was a time when they could produce corn, but there are many sections of Kansas now where they can scarcely produce any corn.

Mr. TAYLOR. Why?

Mr. AYRES. Simply because of the lack of moisture. There are parts of Kansas that are as good corn-producing sections as we have in the country, and the average shows a fairly good production in those parts of the State, but if you take certain localities, in middle and south Kansas, those are not corn-producing sections. You can not produce flax there, and there is no longer any need of producing alfalfa, because we can not feed that to tractors and Ford automobiles. Therefore, there is only one thing left for them to produce in those sections, and that is wheat.

Mr. BACON. Do you have any authority to offer money or financial help to aid farmers in putting in other crops?

Mr. LEGGE. We have no authority in the law for that. I would like to follow your question up a little bit, Mr. Ayres. We have both known Kansas for at least 50 years. I know I have known it that long. In Kansas, as you know, we met with a good deal of local opposition to any such proposals as we made. Yet, notwithstanding that, J. C. Mohler is out with a statement that Kansas acreage is 6 per cent down this year. That is against a record for the five previous years of practically 10 per cent per year increase. There was an increase of practically 10 per cent per annum in the five preceding years. So since the tide is turning from an increase of