Mr. O'HARA. So are these contracts between the labor organization representing the farmworker and the grower.

Mr. TRIGGS. Of course, in the case of the crewleader, the farmer sir, is not required to negotiate with the crewleader—he makes an offer, "This is my offer of employment."

The crewleader may make a counteroffer and they reach agreement. But there is nothing compulsory about the process, any more than the compulsion of one worker——

Mr. O'HARA. You are getting back to the compulsion to bargain.

The preseason arrangement is common in agriculture, at any rate with respect to harvest workers, and you don't object to the preseason arrangement that Mr. Ford brought out?

Mr. TRIGGS. There are all sorts of preseason arrangements made.

Mr. O'HARA. All right.

Let me get back to S. 109 for a minute.

S. 109 would permit—indeed, would encourage—the development of agricultural marketing programs and the growth of marketing associations.

As I understand it, the association would then bargain with the processor.

Mr. TRIGGS. There are many bargaining associations in existence now, sir.

Mr. O'HARA. That is correct.

Now, could you envision a marketing association and a processor, entering into a contract under the terms of which the processor would agree to buy only from members of the association?

Mr. TRIGGS. I suppose that could happen. I don't know of any circumstances where it happens now. Bargaining associations are at the best a very weak weapon.

Mr. O'HARA. Doesn't it happen nowadays quite often in milk?

Mr. TRIGGS. There may be some instances. I don't know. By and large, the bargaining association is a fairly weak instrument, and it just doesn't have the power and strength to monopolize the selling of the commodity, or to enter into any kind of exclusive relationships. This is the general situation.

I couldn't say that it never existed.

Mr. O'HARA. But at any rate, if the situation were such that the marketing association can obtain such an agreement from the processor, you wouldn't object to that, would you?

Mr. TRIGGS. I don't suppose we would. There are all kinds of exclusive relationships in the business community, where a supplier of General Motors enters into an exclusive contract to provide that particular part.

Mr. O'HARA. But you do object to any contractual arrangement, such as in the hiring hall, under which the grower would agree to deal only with the members of the labor organization?

Mr. TRIGGS. Yes. On the point that you raise, I would think that if bargaining associations ever got to be strong enough, that they could foreclose and monopolize the market and keep other growers out of the market, and that this then would be a problem that we would have to look at and maybe the Congress would have to look at.

The fact of the matter is that bargaining associations have not obtained that degree of economic strength, and I very frankly doubt that they ever will.