

province of Manitoba and of the distinguished Doctor Aikins of Toronto. It was an old pioneer family, with magnificent powers of observation. This particular farmer discovered that every animal in his barn required so many cubic feet of space, and he provided a proper system of ventilation for every animal, as well as the right kind of housing, with the result that in a few years his herds surpassed all the other herds in the neighbourhood. Three generations have passed since that day, but to-day the young men in that district still point to the wisdom and the powers of observation of the man who laid the foundations of the healthy herds in that district. I plead with the minister to-day to have an investigation made in those areas in this country where there is such a tremendous amount of bovine tuberculosis. I am satisfied that if the basic conditions are improved, a great deal will have been done to conquer this disease. Otherwise I am satisfied that every dollar you are spending will have to be spent over again in the next few years. It is the underlying conditions that should be investigated apart from what the government should do in seeing that the farmers of this country get what they are justly entitled to in the matter of salvage.

Item agreed to.

To inquire into the live stock industry of Canada through the medium of cooperative marketing, \$25,000.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Last March we had a conference of live stock men in Ottawa discussing the best methods of improving and developing the live stock industry in Canada. Consumption has grown so rapidly that it has overtaken production, and the result is that some of our products have disappeared from the export market. One of the recommendations made by that conference was that we hold an inquiry not only into the live stock situation but into the feed situation, which is closely related to it. That resolution was passed by the whole conference. Later on a section of the conference, the Canadian Co-operative Live Stock Producers, Limited, made a request of my deputy that we adopt the policy of establishing two demonstration packing plants in this country, one in the east and one in the west; but inasmuch as they spoke for just a part of the conference, while the other resolution had been passed by the whole conference, we thought it the wiser and safer course to pursue to put an item in for an inquiry which will be broad enough to cover all phases of the industry. We do not want to establish two abattoirs without knowing where we are going to get off at, especially as that was asked for by only a part of the conference.

Mr. SPENCE: I would warn the minister that the gentlemen who came before the agriculture committee are simply trying to exploit the farmers, and the government should be very careful before spending any money on that scheme, or it will kill the industry.

Mr. SPEAKMAN: I should like to ask the minister as to the system of condemnation insurance, which is exercising the minds of a great many of the farmers, particularly in co-operative societies. A great many of the farmers feel that they have not the slightest idea as to how the money is spent, and who reaps any advantage from that insurance. One cooperative society spent \$700 in premiums, and when they lost stock in transit or in the yards they were unable to get any advantage from the insurance. I suggest that a report be issued annually or semi-annually showing how the money is expended, what return there is to those who pay the premium, and who reaps the benefit. I would like the minister to tell us in a few words what is being done now in this connection, under what authority it is being done, and if there is any chance of the people at large securing information as to the results.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: There is no particular authority for charging that. There is an agreement between the packers and a passive acquiescence in it by the farmers. In actual practice it is bound to be less than the condemned animals come to. But the principle is wrong. It is charged on a flat rate basis: the man with clean cattle is charged on the same basis as the man with unclean cattle. In the maritime provinces there is no condemnation insurance because there they have practically no tuberculosis. The moral is: Clean up your animals, and there will be no question of condemnation insurance.

Mr. SPEAKMAN: So long as this condemnation insurance is carried on with the tacit permission of the Department of Agriculture it would help those in cooperative shipping to have a semi-annual statement issued by the stock yards showing the amount of premiums and to whom the indemnities have been paid. In many cases they have not been able to find out to whom the money went.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I think we can get a statement of the actual losses from condemnation and make a comparison.

Mr. SPEAKMAN: As to who pays the premium and who receives the indemnity?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Yes.