

air-tight building formaldehyde is evaporated.

Mr. SPROULE. The whole value of any system of disinfection depends on the manner in which the work is carried out. If we were told exactly how it is done and what disinfectants are used, I as a medical man could bring my knowledge to bear on it and decide whether it was of real value. I hear them talking about spraying whitewash on the yards and cars and throwing formaldehyde on them. To tell a medical man that you can disinfect by throwing formaldehyde in that way is to tell him something that is repugnant to his knowledge and idea of what should be done. He would not attach much value to it. It would be an easy matter for disease to be communicated from animals which had been in this yard previous to others occupying it unless it were well done. My object is to ascertain just how it is done so as to bring my own judgment to bear as to whether it is effective or otherwise. If we are spending money for it, it ought to be useful in so far as it is possible for human ingenuity to make it so.

Mr. FISHER. I agree with my hon. friend. It is done in the best way it possibly can be done, and I think the fact that there has been no epidemic in the country for a good many years is pretty fair proof that it is done effectively. The cars are first of all scraped clean of manure, they are then washed with a scrubbing broom dipped in a disinfecting fluid, then whitewashed, with lime whitewash which in itself is supposed to act as a destructive force upon the spores of disease. The yards are treated just in the same way. My officers inform me that this treatment is effective. It is possible that occasionally germs of disease may exist, but I think that this is only the case in very rare instances. This disinfection is done in the way in which it is done in all the animal quarantine stations that I know of in the world. I know it is done in the largest in England, and in the United States quarantine stations. It is done by our officers as efficiently as we can have it done.

Mr. SPROULE. I have been told that it has not always been done in that way although I am not going to vouch for the information or to say whether it is correct or otherwise. I have been told that the manure is shovelled out of the car, and that then the car is whitewashed, not that the car is washed first and then whitewashed. If only that is done it is not sufficient. If the other were well done it would, in my judgment, be valuable and most likely effect what is desired.

Mr. FISHER. We have several inspectors, and they are trying their best to have

it carried out properly. If at any time we find remissness it will be pretty short shrift for the man who allowed it. I cannot pretend to say that either I or the veterinary general has seen it done in every case. We have to trust to our inspectors, but I think that we have a good corps of inspectors, and that the work is efficiently done. I will be very glad if my hon. friend will give an instance where there is a doubt of its efficiency, and I will see that it is investigated.

Mr. SPROULE. What check is kept on these quarantine officers whose duty it is to do this work? Is there any inspection or report with regard to them?

Mr. FISHER. We have different grades, one grade above the other; we have certain men who are in charge of others they are one grade higher and then others who are in a still higher grade. We have three or four travelling inspectors who go around all the time and whose business it is to watch the other officers. All inspections require close supervision, and we try to make them efficient. One of the most difficult things in administration is to insure thorough efficiency in a second grade of inspectors, but we do the best we can and to-day we have a system which, I think, secures that result.

Mr. SEXSMITH. How many inspectors have you permanently employed?

Mr. FISHER. Twelve.

Mr. SEXSMITH. At what salary?

Mr. FISHER. One at \$2,100, one at \$2,000, one at \$1,700, three at \$1,500, 12 at \$1,400, 16 at \$1,300. Then, there is a whole lot at \$900, and \$700 and two temporary employees at \$100.

Mr. BLAIN. As I understand it, an American cattle buyer can purchase cattle in Chicago, send them through Canada in bond to Montreal, and then export them to Europe. May I ask the minister whether the ordinary inspection applies to such cattle?

Mr. FISHER. Yes, when they leave the port of Montreal.

Mr. BLAIN. But I mean as they enter Canada.

Mr. FISHER. They are subject to our regulations. As long as they are kept in bond we do not inspect them in the same way as if they were to be let loose in Canada. We do not allow any animal, American or any other kind, to leave Montreal without inspection and a certificate of health, because it would be injurious to the credit of Canada if an unhealthy animal were allowed to reach Europe.