

Re Reduced Appropriations for Departments of Plant Pathology
and Entomology.

1. Conservative estimates of the damages resulting from Plant Diseases and Insect pests declare that at least 10% of the annual value of the crops and of the products of domestic animals are lost to the farmers of the country in spite of many certain results of control devised and operated by the Departments of Plant Pathology and Entomology.
2. The starving of these departments is a direct blow at the prosperity of the foundation of national wealth in Canada, and reduces very greatly the value of the efforts being made to rescue agriculture from its almost desperate condition of depression.
3. Canadian departments of defence against fungal and insect pests have repeatedly lost many of their most efficient men because of the meagre salaries paid up to the present. Any further reduction of salaries or opportunity for progress will result in again reducing to comparative inefficiency the staff, which has but very recently become somewhat adequate.
4. Because of the technical nature of the methods which have to be used in the scientific research on which pest control rests, the workers have to depend but slightly on popular and public support, and to expect that of the well-informed statesmen, who look beneath the surface, as well as anticipate the future, in formulating policies for the benefit of the country at large.
5. The Universities of Canada have only within the last decade been able ~~for~~ to produce a number of young men qualified to do acceptable work in the departments of plant and animal protection. If no outlet for the activities of men thus trained is afforded in Canada, there will certainly be a lack of qualified investigators when they are again desired.