

Supply—Agriculture

would be under official supervision. Also it may be that it is just a herd that has been under official supervision because the owner has brought it under the act by making it a herd that is reported upon.

Mr. Charlton: Mr. Chairman, obviously those cattle which died before they were taken to the slaughterhouse subsequent to the tests, must have been tested for the first time if they were sufficiently far advanced to die in the meantime, or else there is something queer about it. Can the minister tell us if this herd or that area generally had ever been tested before.

Mr. Gardiner: Well, I do not have any information about that, but the herd was certainly subject to tests and I would take it that as a matter of fact the herd had been tested.

Item agreed to.

Marketing service—

549. To provide for grants and other assistance in accordance with the Cheese and Cheese Factory Improvement Act—further amount required, \$14,753.

Mr. Nesbitt: Mr. Chairman, I was wondering if the minister could give us a brief statement regarding where the amount of \$14,753 is to be distributed.

Mr. Gardiner: At pages 11 and 12 the items are reported. Prince Edward Island, Summerside, \$833; Granby Co-operative, \$1,344—

Mr. Nesbitt: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman, but I think the minister has the wrong item. It is item 549.

Mr. Gardiner: Oh, yes; to provide for grants and other assistance in accordance with the Cheese and Cheese Factory Improvement Act.

Mr. Nesbitt: Yes.

Mr. Gardiner: Yes; I was taking the other item. This is for construction and reconstruction of cheese factories. I am not sure that I have that information. I will see whether I have the places. It does not indicate that in the details.

Mr. Nesbitt: If the minister has not the figures with him, perhaps one of his officials could send them to me at another time. On this particular item, Mr. Chairman, I should just like to say that I am glad there is going to be some assistance to the cheese producers, or at least some further assistance through the supplementary items, because apparently the government has not been doing very much to meet the requests of the cheese producers in this country.

I am rather sorry this item is not larger, for the following reasons. The cheese producers of this country are certainly entitled

[Mr. Gardiner.]

to some more assistance than they have been getting. I have no doubt that the minister has had numerous representations made to him by the federation of agriculture and other organizations. In this regard I should like to bring to his attention the fact that he is not the only one who has been having representations made to him by cheese producers for assistance. I myself, as a member representing a dairy farming part of the country, have received a number of telegrams just recently. I am not going to read them all but I should like to read one or two very briefly. There is one under date of March 9, which is addressed to me and which reads as follows:

Dear Sir: We the Beachville concentrated milk producers association representing 400 farmers producers of milk products wish to ask you for your support of the federation of agriculture brief asking for a 4-cent tariff protection on skim milk powder and a 6-cent tariff on cheese.

It is signed by Ralph Kent, president.

There is a similar one from the Hickson concentrated milk producers signed by John E. King, secretary treasurer, also asking for a 6-cent tariff on cheese and a 4-cent tariff on skim milk powder. Then there is another from a different association, also asking for tariff adjustments on cheese and milk powder, dated March 8 and signed by Howard N. Patience, president of the Ingersoll concentrated milk producers association. To show the minister that it is more than the concentrated milk people who are asking for this assistance I read briefly from an item in the Woodstock daily *Sentinel Review* of December 21 last, as follows:

Oxford county dairy farmers yesterday strongly demanded action by the federal and provincial governments to raise farm income.

A meeting in Woodstock of representatives of all dairy organizations in the county passed a resolution asking the governments for safeguards against competition of overseas producers.

As I say, I have no doubt that the minister has had plenty of representations along those lines. It was a great disappointment, I think, to a great many members of this house, and I am sure is a great disappointment to the dairy farmers generally—and I am only making passing reference to this matter; we shall deal with it at another time, of course—that nothing was done in the budget to help the cheese producers. As I said, I would be out of order in discussing that sort of thing at this time. We shall deal with it later, but under this particular item I think reference may certainly be made to it.

Since nothing has been done in the budget to help the dairy farmers and the cheese producers in particular, there is another matter which I should like to get cleared up at this point. It directly concerns this question of