

Supply—Soldier Land Settlement

Mr. GARDINER: Can the minister give us the total acreage allocated under the three thousand family scheme?

Mr. FORKE: I have not got that.

Mr. SPEAKMAN: The terms under which they get the loan from the British government provide for no payments being made for two years, if that is right, in most cases the first payment would be made last fall.

Mr. FORKE: There is generally one year of probation, and another year before they make any payment.

Mr. SPEAKMAN: As they have only come in within the last few years it is only now that payments are coming due.

Mr. FORKE: It does not amount to very much yet.

Mr. SPEAKMAN: You have not the definite amount, but are of opinion that it is not quite as satisfactory, by percentage, as the soldier settlers. I shall not repeat the arguments that I have already made with regard to soldier land settlement, but most of those arguments apply to this settlement scheme as well. The minister agrees with me, without saying now that the scheme is damned, that we will take good care to see how it is going to work out before we extend it.

Mr. GARDINER: Is the land settlement board selling to civilian Canadians land on the same terms as granted to the British families, provided that the Canadian settler owns his stock and equipment?

Mr. FORKE: I do not see any reason why they should not. They are selling this land to Canadian civilians right now on twenty-five equal annual payments.

Mr. GARDINER: On exactly the same terms as to the British?

Mr. FORKE: Practically the same terms, twenty-five equal annual payments but if they fall down in their payments we have nothing to take the place of the British government.

Mr. GARDINER: Why do you need the British government when these Canadian settlers have their own stock and equipment? Do you call for any payment down from Canadian settlers?

Mr. FORKE: A payment down of ten per cent.

Mr. GARDINER: That is the difference, and you do not give them two years' probation.

[Mr. Forke.]

Mr. FORKE: They do not need it.

Mr. GARDINER: Do you give them one year's probation?

Mr. FORKE: I think they get one year.

Mr. GARDINER: Are you quite sure of that?

Mr. FORKE: It is a matter of adjustment. I think they get as good terms as the British settler.

Mr. GARDINER: Not when they pay ten per cent down.

Item agreed to.

Agriculture—Dairying, including grant of \$5,000 to the National Dairy Council and necessary new buildings, \$295,000.

Mr. SPENCER: If on investigation the minister finds that certain members of the National Dairy Council are getting rid of New Zealand or other imported butter of inferior quality as Canadian butter, will he discontinue the grant to the council?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Well, if they are doing it it is wrong, and we had better stop it by law or regulation, but I do not think we should penalize the council. My hon. friend speaks of "getting rid of" New Zealand butter as if it was an inferior product. I do not know why any dealer in butter should attempt to disguise New Zealand butter, because it is good butter. However, if what is alleged is being done I think it should be stopped. We have investigated complaints but so far we have not got sufficient evidence to warrant a prosecution.

Mr. CAMPBELL: If large quantities of New Zealand and other imported butter of an inferior quality are being sold throughout the country as Canadian butter it is a serious situation that calls for drastic action on the part of the Department of Agriculture. The minister seems to think that he has no legislative authority to take action. I think he must be mistaken. If we sell our wheat as being of a certain grade, and it turns out to be of an inferior grade, we have to compensate the buyer or we are liable to a charge of fraud. Certainly the minister must be in a position to deal with this situation.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: This New Zealand butter is not inferior to ours, and if it is not sold as Canadian butter there is no violation of the law. If, however, it is sold as butter of Canadian origin, undoubtedly there is a violation of the law.