

Supply—Agriculture

fair type. Then, there were 57 lambs, one year old; 11 sheep, four years old. That is the full number of animals taken out of the pens of the packing plants and destroyed.

For the first 49 steers, at two years old, the amount is \$13,160. For the six-year old cow, \$239.60; for the 24 steers, fair type, \$6,548.75; for the 57 lambs at \$20 each, \$1,140; and for the 11 sheep, four years old, at \$20 each, \$220.

Mr. Argue: My further question is this: Were the prices paid to the packing plant paid on the same scale as the compensation to the farmers? Has the minister in front of him any record to show what the Burns company paid for those animals? I am trying to get at this; is this the cost price to Burns, or did they make money out of it?

Mr. Gardiner: The Burns company, and other packing houses that were paid, were paid on the basis of the commercial value of the animals. There was no extra value allowed to them. But I can give the hon. member one or two figures to indicate the way in which other settlements were made.

Here is one: A one-year old red heifer which was valued under the Animal Contagious Diseases Act at \$260. Then there was \$40 added to that, as an increased allowance over and above the commercial value of the animal. And, just to indicate somewhat the difference between a heifer and a steer—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Gardiner:—which would probably be somewhat the same value—

Mr. Cruickshank: There is a difference, though.

Mr. Gardiner:—for the two-year old steers, the value was \$345. The extra allowance on the steer was only \$15, while on the heifer it was \$40. One can see the reason for it.

Mr. Charlton: I shall speak for only one moment. I do wish to say, in view of what the minister has said, that, because of the speed with which the disease has been controlled in the quarantined area, the department is to be congratulated. But I do wish to add this, that the minister should not feel too encouraged over these results. I am not trying to paint a black picture, but I must point out that this is perhaps the coldest country in which the disease has ever appeared before. That has been the good luck of the minister, and has enabled the department to confine the disease to the quarantined area.

In this connection I should like to quote briefly from one of the best technical works on this subject. I refer to that of Hutyra and

Marek, "The Pathology and Therapeutics of the Diseases of Domestic Animals", where they say:

The disease spreads with particular rapidity during warm weather, while in the winter it does not occur so extensively. With the appearance of warm weather, however, it frequently gains a wide prevalence, as a result of the greater traffic in cattle.

I sincerely hope that the disease may be kept within the area. I will say this, so far as loss is concerned, that there are probably many thousands of farmers in eastern Canada, and in the far west, who have lost twice as much as any of those within the quarantined area. I have sympathy with what has been said by the hon. member for Fraser Valley.

I hope, in all sincerity, that the minister is right when he says that the disease is controlled. I just offer this word of warning, because I would not want too much optimism until after the frost leaves the ground.

Mr. Sinnott: I hope I may be excused for moving up a couple of seats. However, I was interested in this matter from the practical point of view of a farmer, rather than from what I heard while listening in the house this evening. From what has been said by the Minister of Agriculture I can assure the house and the people of Canada—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Sinnott: Yes, I can assure the house and the people of Canada that the government has not paid these people too much money for the cattle.

Mr. Ross (Souris): How about the goat?

Mr. Sinnott: We have not had that figure yet. I heard the minister say something about cutting off the outside haystacks and straw piles. For the amount it would take by way of labour to cut off the sides of those stacks and piles, I think the chance being taken of spreading the disease would warrant setting fire to that hay and straw. I would also point out that they should take precautions at Wascana creek in the spring.

Mr. Fulton: I should like to refer briefly to one or two comments made during the discussion of this item. In the light of what has been said, as a member from British Columbia, where the headquarters of the British Columbia beef cattle growers association is located, I would urge the minister that when the provincial authorities come here the day after tomorrow he ought not to place any undue pressure upon the representatives from British Columbia for a removal at too early a date of the embargo on the movement of cattle into that province.