

*Supply—Agriculture*

regards some of these farm products it has been justifiable to maintain prices in Canada at a slightly higher level for a period of time than the level to which they have gone down in the United States, as a result of the fact that United States prices were allowed to go up as high as they did and our prices were held down for the few months during which that condition prevailed.

Item agreed to.

## Administration service—

4. Contributions to commonwealth bureaux, \$86,139.

**Mr. Wright:** Where are these bureaux situated to which we make this contribution, and does Canada supply any of the personnel?

**Mr. Gardiner:** The commonwealth agricultural bureau is a bureau that compiles information from different agricultural departments all over the world that may be of use to people in other parts of the commonwealth. A bureau has been conducted in London during the past few years. One of those bureaux was transferred from London to Ottawa during the war period. My understanding is that it is to remain here. These bureaux were set up for the purpose of gathering information from all parts of the empire and sending it to anyone who may require it in order to form a judgment as to whether that particular part of the empire should proceed in the same way. The only way that information could be made available was to have it accumulated at one place and have each section pay a proportion of the cost. This item covers Canada's share.

**Mr. Wright:** How are the personnel for these bureaux selected? Are they selected from the various countries?

**Mr. Gardiner:** The scientific services in the different countries select the men who are to serve on these bureaux.

Item agreed to.

## Science service—

5. Science service administration, \$680,070.

**Mr. Harkness:** The major portion of this item amounting to over \$500,000 seems to be for the acquisition and construction of buildings. It is so large a sum, I wonder whether the minister would explain what buildings this item covers?

**Mr. Gardiner:** The reason for putting it in this item is that it is concerned with a number of divisions, that is production, experimental farms as well as some of the others. There is no one item under which we could put these buildings, so we have placed them in the item covering scientific services. Really, they are concerned with scientific services.

[Mr. Gardiner.]

One building for which this money is being provided is being opened at Lethbridge the day after tomorrow. As my hon. friend will know, that building has to do with the study of certain diseases in livestock. For a long time it was located at a different point outside the city of Lethbridge and some distance from the experimental farm. It has now been located closer to the experimental farm. A year ago the money was provided for the land on which to construct this building. It has been constructed and is to be officially opened the day after tomorrow.

Another of these buildings is located at Sault Ste. Marie in the northern part of the province of Ontario. It is connected with the department of entomology and is concerned with the fighting of forest pests. We have those buildings established at different places across Canada and the money is for them.

**Mr. Harkness:** I understand that this item covers a series of buildings. Could the minister tell us how many?

**Mr. Gardiner:** Those I have named are the major ones. I believe a start has been made on a building at London, but it is not completed. I believe those are the three buildings involved.

**Mr. Harkness:** Would the minister tell me what amount was spent on the buildings at Lethbridge to which he just referred?

**Mr. Gardiner:** I am sorry, but the information we have here shows a lump sum for the three buildings. I have not a breakdown of the expenditure, but I can get that information for the hon. member at a later date. I can bring it in when my estimates are again before the committee.

**Mr. Herridge:** Would the minister tell the house what progress has been made in the investigation into "little cherry" disease? What staff is employed now on that work?

**Mr. Gardiner:** Would the hon. member return to that matter when we reach the item concerning botany? In that way, the information can be given in the order in which we have it here.

**Mr. Stewart (Winnipeg North):** Does the item discussed a few moments ago cover the acquisition of the land?

**Mr. Gardiner:** No. As I said a while ago, the amount for acquiring the land was obtained in a previous estimate about a year ago. After the land was obtained, this amount was needed for the construction of the building.

Item agreed to.