

making an aggregate net expenditure for maintenance in all departments of \$37,227.94; and that is run under a commission of farmers, of which the hon. member for Huron is one. Then we have the amounts for seeds, fertilizers, manures, livestock, waggons, salaries, maintenance, furniture, even down to binding twine, for which \$39.10 was expended. For repairs and blacksmithing, \$450; furniture, \$43; implements, \$293. Advertising, printing and posting are paid on the same expensive scale. So the hon. gentleman has no right to say that in that college farmers get instruction cheaper than in any other place in the country. I find that they had last year, 146 students instead of 300, as I erroneously stated when I spoke before. In my judgment the province pays a very large amount of money for the returns it gets from that college. It appears that there was only one team of horses for 146 students, I think that team must have been ploughed to death. And all this is done under the able management of a board of experienced farmers of which the hon. member for Huron is one. I think that he is hardly in a position of criticise the management of the experimental farm here. Any one who will read these two reports must come to the conclusion that the hon. member for Huron is not so great an expert in farming as he pretends to be.

Mr. McMILLAN (Huron). I am glad to learn that the hon. gentleman has been studying the report of the Guelph College. I want to know from the Minister where this waggonette was purchased?

Mr. CARLING. It was purchased from Moreland & Co., London, Ontario. It is a very good carriage, and very cheap.

Mr. SPROULE. The hon. member for Huron complains of the expenditure for labour on the experimental farm. I want to remind him that at Guelph they pay \$1,000 for labour in keeping up a lawn.

Mr. EDWARDS. As diversity is the spice of life, I propose that we discuss a humane question, and take up the item for dehorning cattle at the farm.

Mr. ROWAND. I have not yet got any explanation from the Minister of the result of the experiment of setting apart 40 acres for the keeping of a certain number of animals. We were told they were trying the experiment of keeping one animal on one acre.

Mr. CARLING. I am told that 25 head of cattle were kept on 40 acres for ten months.

Mr. CASEY. How about this waggonette? The Minister said it was a good and cheap one. I know perfectly well that for the price paid for this waggonette, you could get a first-class covered carriage.

Mr. CARLING. How many would it carry?

Mr. CASEY. It would carry six.

Mr. CARLING. This carries sixteen.

Mr. CASEY. Oh, I see, the Government are running a van to the farm. It must be a sort of circus waggon to run to and from the farm. Perhaps the Minister will not object to repeating his explanation as to this waggonette for my benefit, as I was not present when he gave it before.

Mr. CARLING. It is used just as waggonettes are used in other institutions; it runs between the

Mr. SPROULE.

experimental farm and the city, two or three times a day, to convey people connected with the farm to and from the city, and also to convey packages.

Mr. CASEY. I do not see how it can be made useful to the farm, although it may be convenient for the official staff. I look upon it as an unnecessary piece of extravagance. The difficulty we have experienced in getting information from the Minister only emphasizes what I said the other night as to the injudiciousness of throwing upon the director of the experimental farm other important duties. I have no doubt that gentleman is a very able man, but no single man can do more than he is supposed to do, and the consequence is that a great deal of what he is supposed to do must be done in a slipshod manner. Now, it is proposed to load him with other duties as Commissioner at the Columbian Exhibition. I am afraid that next year we shall have even more difficulty in getting information about the proceedings at the farm than we have this year.

Mr. McMULLEN. In my opinion the experimental farm is conducted in the most extravagant way. The hon. member for Grey (Mr. Sproule) stated that on the agricultural farm at Guelph something over \$1,000 was expended for labour, but here we have \$15,250 expended for labour. The Minister says that this waggonette is run from the experimental farm to the city twice a day. I notice that over \$200 is paid out for cab-hire in connection with the farm. How is it that there is so much cab-hire when there is a waggonette run twice a day between the farm and the city? Now, any person reading this report from beginning to end can come to no other conclusion than that money is uselessly expended. We are anxious that the experimental farm should be a success, we are anxious that the farmers may get the benefit of the experiments made there; but as the hon. member for Huron (Mr. McMillan) has said, if they are going to benefit by those experiments they must be conducted in some degree according to the usual custom of our farmers throughout the Dominion. If the Government operate that farm in a way far different from the way in which farmers run their farms, the experiments cannot be of much value in the way of giving farmers an idea of advantages to be derived from adopting a particular system of agriculture. The only advantage the farmers have had so far has been in the samples of seed sent out and also from some experiments in dairying. These are all good in themselves, and it is to be hoped that the farmers will benefit by these experiments, but while we are willing to encourage anything that will tend to enlighten the farmers and help them to develop the resources of their farms, we are not willing to continue an unnecessary expenditure. There is an expenditure of \$15,500 on labour for the experimental farm alone, in addition to all the teamsters and officials and attendants. The extravagance displayed is absurd, and should be cut down at once.

Mr. McMILLAN (Huron). I see an item for stabling horses, 21 weeks. Where were the horses when we paid for stabling?

Mr. CARLING. These horses come in from the farm and stay in the city part of each day, when they are stabled, especially during the winter months.