

\$267.77 and returned \$88.57, making a loss of \$179.20. A gentleman at Alberton, Prince Edward Island spent \$225.37, returned \$116.87, and made a loss of \$108.50. At Andover, New Brunswick, a person spent \$347.04 and returned \$179.03, making a loss of \$168.01. At Bondville, Quebec, Mr. Hillhouse, spent \$719.87 and returned \$407.71, making a loss of \$312.16. I want the hon. Minister of Agriculture to explain how he can put a document like this into circulation advising the farmers to go into poultry farming for profit while making the losses the government have made. They expended \$7,621.58 in this way and all they returned was \$2,753.12, making a loss of \$4,868.46.

Mr. COCHRANE. At how many stations?

Mr. TAYLOR. I did not count the number of stations, but this is the total result. How can the hon. minister tell the farmers there is profit in poultry farming while showing such a loss as this?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. The hon. gentleman knows perfectly well that this is experimental work. You do not expect to make a profit on the work itself. You never can do so and you might as well expect the farm at Ottawa which deals with an immense amount of experimental work to sell enough out of its fields and out of its herds to pay for that experimental work. The same principle applies to the poultry experimental stations where the work is done for the purpose of obtaining information and not for the purpose of obtaining results at the stations themselves.

Mr. COCHRANE. Would the minister let me ask him a question?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. Would the hon. gentleman wait till I sit down?

Mr. COCHRANE. I thought that perhaps the minister would never be able to get through in time to sit down. I can tell the minister that if the experimental farm outside of the experimental plots will not pay, then it is no good. What can the farmers of Canada learn from the Minister of Agriculture in reference to farming, when he tells us to-night that he cannot make his own farm pay. He has the most beautiful site there is in this country for a farm, and I venture to say that neither the minister himself nor any man on the farm has brains enough to make it pay. The minister tells us that he has men trotting around the country teaching the farmers how to raise chickens. What is the use of that when the farmers cannot get help enough to do the ordinary farm work. He issues this pamphlet with all these cuts in it at a great expense, and then he tells us that chicken raising does not pay him, and that it is only an experiment. It is the most absurd thing I have ever heard tell of, to

think that he has men in our section of the country running around to tell the farmers how to fatten chickens.

Mr. CLARKE. How to suck eggs.

Mr. COCHRANE. Well, there is a good deal of sucking going around in that department, and the minister has more suckers than chickens. Mr. Chairman, you yourself, as a doctor, will see the absurdity of sending people to farmers telling them how to raise chickens. We are paying \$50 a month to these men to do that, and then the Minister of Agriculture turns around and tells us that he cannot himself make this chicken fattening a paying business. It is better that he would drop the chicken fattening and bring his great ability to bear on running the experimental farm properly. I would like to ask you, Mr. Chairman, how long you could live on a farm that you could not make pay? It is worse than absurd to take the money of the hard working farmers of the country and spend it on an experimental farm which the minister says he cannot make pay. What is the use of it as an example to the farmers of Canada if it is a concern that cannot pay its own way?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. I admit that I cannot make the experimental farm pay, and I never knew it to pay since its inception, and I do not expect it ever will pay.

Mr. COCHRANE. You had better wind it up.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. But it does pay, and the farmers of this country acknowledge it pays, in the information they get from these experiments and from the reports and bulletins that are sent out. I can say that since that bulletin has been out we have had hundreds and thousands of applications for it from farmers who want to know how to carry on the business, and I am having more applications for experimental stations every day.

Mr. COCHRANE. From some Grit heelers.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. No, but frequently from Conservative voters who appreciate the benefits that are being conferred upon them in this respect by a Liberal government. These are progressive farmers and are not like my hon. friend (Mr. Cochrane) who thinks he can learn nothing—not from the Minister of Agriculture, who does not pretend to teach him—but from the officials in the Department of Agriculture, who are the best experimenters and the best experts in this country, and I may say on this continent, and who are working to-day for the benefit of the farmers of Canada and doing work that the farmers of Canada appreciate.

Mr. COCHRANE. The minister says that he has received thousands of applica-