Supply-Agriculture-Live Stock

The explanations given when we were in committee before in respect to the first item apply equally to this one. The reclassification and reorganization were in progress at the time the original estimates were brought down, and these are the further amounts required as a result of the completion of the reorganization and reclassification.

Mr. STEWART: How does the total vote for these services compare with the total for similar services last year? I gather from the minister's observation that some reorganization has taken place. To what extent has such reorganization increased or decreased expenditures for these services?

Mr. GARDINER: The total amount in the main estimates for 1937-38 was \$734,058. In the main estimates for this year the total is \$829,170.50, or an increase of \$95,112.50. That is not an exact comparison with last year, in view of the reorganization. Some of the activities are different, but that is as near as it can be traced in the estimates.

Mr. STEWART: Would the minister outline the reasons for the substantial increase in the vote. I have gathered from his statements concerning some of the other estimates that no really new activities have been undertaken, and that there has simply been a rearrangement or readjustment of duties. It now appears that there is a large increase in expenditures for practically the same work.

Mr. GARDINER: The number of services or activities has not increased, but there is an extension of service right across Canada in connection with live stock production.

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin-Simcoe): Are there any new services, or have we only an extension of the old ones?

Mr. GARDINER: That is true of production. There are no what might be called new services in connection with production; it is simply a matter of extending existing services.

Mr. SENN: What are the duties of fieldmen? I understand they undertake certain work in the country, but I should like to know their special duties?

Mr. GARDINER: The men we have out in the field are overseeing or inspecting the live stock production activities in connection with swine, cattle, sheep and poultry, and they are known as fieldmen. Their work is that of inspection and giving advice to farmers with respect to improvement of herds.

Mr. SENN: I understand to a great extent they deal with live stock associations as well [Mr. Gardiner.] as with private individuals. Are those appointments to be made by the civil service commission?

Mr. GARDINER: Yes; they are all made by the civil service commission, and these men deal with individuals as well as associations. That is, they are concerned with pure bred herds, and even with farmers who have not pure bred herds but are interested in improving their stock.

Mr. SENN: Will they have permanent or temporary appointments? I see in the original vote there was an increase of about \$27,000 for prizes, bonuses and premiums, and in the supplementaries there is a further vote for \$8,000. Would the minister explain what these bonuses and premiums, and particularly the prizes, are for? No doubt the premiums are for ram and bull enterprises, and probably bonuses would be in the same category. But I do not understand what the prizes are for. When the minister is answering, would he give the different amounts spent in bonuses, prizes and premiums.

Mr. GARDINER: The amount to provide salaries, as I stated before, is \$16,785, and the amount for prizes, bonuses and premiums is The sum of \$3,000 is required in \$8.000. Quebec in connection with the bull premium policy. A short time ago we had suggested to Quebec that this year we would probably discontinue that policy. It is one which is carried on only in Quebec, and eastern Canada. The policy in connection with stallions is carried on in Saskatchewan, and that is the only part of western Canada in which that policy obtained. It was decided this year to discontinue those two policies. We had to make the decision between extending them right across eastern Canada, so far as the one policy was concerned, and of extending the stallion policy right across western Canada, so far as that part of the country was concerned, or discontinuing them after having tried them out for a year or two.

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin-Simcoe): Why discontinue them?

Mr. GARDINER: We were giving assistance in other directions. This is a policy that extends for two years and the request was made that we pay the premium on bulls this year. When we gave notice that we were likely to discontinue this policy this year, it was pointed out to us that it would not be fair to do so on immediate notice, that we should give at least one year's notice. That was the position when we brought down the main estimates. Had it not been for that decision we would have required to include

3226