

ture on various items at all the five farms, and if so, I may then consider the question of the appointment of an apiarist, or of doing something else to extend experimental work in connection with these. But I do not like to charge the farms with that expenditure until I can see my way clear to doing it in some such way as I have suggested. As regards the proposition of what Professor Robertson and myself have called illustration stations, and of experimental stations in different parts of the country, I may say that this question was brought up in the Committee of Agriculture a short time ago, but in a tentative way, for the purpose of sounding the opinion of the members. I am satisfied in my own mind, that a good deal of good might be accomplished by some such work. But I may say frankly that the scheme has not yet been proposed or worked out to that point where it can be put into immediate practice, and I have not at the present moment come to a conclusion as to whether I can do anything during the next season. The hon. gentleman will see that such a work as this could not be taken out of the vote for experimental farms, in fact it was not the intention that it should be done entirely in connection with the experimental farms, but rather under the control and management of the dairy commissioner who has done such able work in what might be called the illustration stations in dairying all over the country. In fact the idea grew out of the success of Professor Robertson in illustrating the best dairy methods for the people in the different provinces of the Dominion. We hope, if this work is undertaken, that, commencing in a comparatively small way, it will grow, not as a charge upon the revenue of the country, but in efficiency and advantage similar to the splendid dairy work that Professor Robertson has inaugurated in days gone by. The hon. gentleman has asked me for some details about the purchase of animals for the Nappan farm. The prices paid do not come into the report of this year, the purchases were made late in the fall. I can say, however, speaking from memory, that we sent down to the Nappan farm some 20 cows, bought chiefly in the neighbourhood of Huntingdon, in the province of Quebec. Amongst them, however, were two thoroughbred Guernsey cows bought in the United States, along with a thoroughbred Guernsey bull and one or two Ayrshires bought in Canada, all thoroughbreds. The rest of them were grade animals sent down from this part of Canada. We also bought two or three Guernsey cattle for the central farm, one or two of which are to be sent to the west this spring, either to Brandon or Indian Head. The total number purchased is about 25 head. The prices paid for the grade cattle were in the neighbourhood of \$50 to \$55. The cows were cows coming in, as it is called, that is to say, going to calve or having just calved

in the fall of the year. I think I may say they were good animals, and the prices paid were what I consider reasonable prices. They were purchased mostly by Mr. Robertson, the new manager of the farm at Nappan, who is considered an extra good judge of stock, one of the best judges of dairy cattle, I suppose, in the Dominion of Canada at the present day. They were purchased from different people, two of the grade cows in the neighbourhood of Ottawa, and all the rest in the neighbourhood of Huntingdon and Chateauguay. Most of them were Ayrshires, there being a large number of this breed kept in the neighbourhood, and of an excellent quality.

Mr. CLANCY. I agree with the hon. member for Haldimand (Mr. Montague) that the expenditure on these experimental farms is entirely too small. Take, for instance, the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa. I had the pleasure of visiting that only a day or two ago, and I am not making this criticism in a vein of fault finding, when I say that I think the time has come when we have completely outgrown the state of things that can be produced by the money now voted by Parliament for purposes of this kind. I think the Minister of Agriculture will agree with me that a considerably larger sum could be expended in a most useful work at the Experimental Farm. Now, in looking over it, I became persuaded, not that the money was badly spent, but that there was not enough money spent. Take, for instance, the swine: the hon. gentleman will know himself that there is not a variety, there is not the kind the farmers would expect to see there. The building is entirely too small, it is one wanting entirely in facilities for carrying on such a work as would be applicable to a city like Ottawa, and which, from its location, would do a great deal of good. I hope another year the Minister will considerably increase the vote, for I believe no money is so well spent in Canada as in the expenditure on the work being carried on at the experimental farm now. With respect to the experimental stations, I do not quite agree with the hon. member for Haldimand (Mr. Montague), that that project can be carried out. I quite sympathize with those who hold the view that work of that kind might produce good results, but I think the farmers will see, and the Minister of Agriculture himself will see the difficulty of undertaking a work of that kind with a view to reach the masses. I imagine if the grant can be increased for the central farm, so that more seed can be sent out for experimental purposes and returns obtained by the department here, more benefit will be accomplished and the mass of the people will be reached more readily. The fact is, you must have every man engage as an experimentalist in order to obtain success. You will never reach the masses until you can