

corn counties, are showing their results in the invasions becoming more or less circumscribed. This is being done to a large extent by the activities of the farmers themselves. The hon. member for South Oxford made light of the fact that by putting the corn into the silo early, many of these bugs were silent, they were canned with the corn, but if you left that over until too late, they would not be. That is an important fact. In addition to that, the farmers by their own observations have found that tillage at a certain time and to a certain depth will bury those insect pests, just as we do many of our insect pests on the prairies by fall ploughing, thus getting rid of them for the time being.

And the Speaker having resumed the chair.

### THE ROYAL ASSENT SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform from the House that I have received the following letter:

Ottawa, April 4, 1924.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the Right Hon. Sir Louis Davies, K.C.M.G., acting as Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General, will proceed to the Senate chamber this afternoon at five-thirty o'clock for the purpose of giving the royal assent to the Interim Supply Bill.

JAMES F. CROWDY,

Deputy of the Governor General's Secretary.

A message was delivered by Colonel Ernest J. Chambers, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, as follows:

Mr. Speaker, His Honour, the Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General, desires the immediate attendance of this honourable House in the chamber of the honourable the Senate.

Accordingly, the House went up to the Senate.

And having returned,

Mr. SPEAKER informed the House that the Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General had been pleased to give in His Majesty's name the royal assent to the following bill:

An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service for the fiscal year ending the 31st March, 1925.

### SUPPLY

#### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The House resumed in Committee of Supply.

Administration and enforcement of Destructive Insect and Pest Act, \$230,000.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): I would like to ask the minister to give a brief but, if possible, a comprehensive survey of the work of the department in the administration of the Destructive Insect and Pest Act. The discussion so far has been away from the item under consideration, and the question asked by the hon. member (Mr. Fansher) is the only one that really touches the subject. We are anxious to know what work has been done during the past year, where it has been done and what it has cost in each province.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I was in the act of answering that when the committee had to rise for something equally important. I was reciting some of the activities that were being engaged in with the idea of restricting or, if possible, eliminating altogether the European corn borer in Ontario. I have mentioned the quarantining of these districts, and I may point out that the quarantined areas are not permitted to sell corn on the cob for seed purposes outside of their districts, because the disease is transmissible by that medium. In answer to the hon. member for East Lambton (Mr. Fansher) I may say that the cost of the activities of this branch is divided up as follows: scout work: one foreman inspector of insect pests, three months at \$85 per month, \$255. It is very difficult to give the exact figures, because this corn borer season does not last the year round. We have permanent inspectors and in addition to that we have temporary inspectors at the peak season. Then, five scout inspectors of insect pests, two months at \$75, \$750; two scout inspectors of insect pests, six months at \$75, \$900; two foreman inspectors of insect pests, two months at \$85, \$340; travelling expenses, \$2,430; total, \$4,675. I do not know to what extent that answers the question of my hon. friend from Bow River.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): If that is the only work done in connection with the administration of the Destructive Insect and Pest Act it answers my question, but if other work has been done in other provinces I should like to know it.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: We have always given a certain amount of assistance in the way of co-operation with the western provinces, in the extermination of grasshoppers, for instance, although that has been done largely by the provinces and the municipalities working in conjunction with our officers. We have about eighteen or twenty laboratories doing this class of work all over the Dominion, generally in conjunction with the experimental farms. The laboratory is not