

## SUPPLY

The house in committee of supply, Mr. Vien in the chair.

## DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

## 47. Departmental administration, \$417,106.

Mr. McNEVIN: Mr. Chairman, unless the minister wishes to make a statement, I have a few remarks I wish to make in support of some representations I made during the passage of the estimates of the Minister of Agriculture with respect to the whole milk situation in Canada. My remarks will bear more particularly on that area commonly referred to as the Toronto milk shed, and distribution within the city of Toronto.

Hon. J. L. ILSLEY: (Minister of Finance): Mr. Chairman, I rise to a point of order. The hon. member spoke to me last night and said that he wished to discuss the fluid milk situation under this estimate. I took no exception to it at that time. However, on thinking it over I should like to have a ruling as to whether such a discussion is in order. If it is in order, all right; if it is not—

Mr. McNEVIN: It will take just about five minutes.

Mr. ILSLEY: Yes, five minutes from the hon. member. Then the hon. member for Kamloops wishes to discuss beef—or at least did, the last time the matter was before the house. I took the position at that time that the discussion of the wartime prices and trade board was completed for the present session, so far as I could see. It may be that this matter may be discussed. But if so I am afraid the discussion on the wartime prices and trade board will be endless.

Mr. McNEVIN: I will not bring that in. I have not touched upon the wartime prices and trade board.

Mr. ILSLEY: What is it brought in under, then?

Mr. McNEVIN: It does not relate to that.

Mr. ILSLEY: If the hon. member wishes to answer my point of order, and can point out any item under which he contends he should be permitted to make this statement, and if the chairman rules that that is permissible, well and good. But if so, we shall be going on indefinitely.

Mr. McNEVIN: Replying to the point of order, there is no question that the item for the general administration of the Department of Finance has to do with matters of this kind.

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

Mr. ILSLEY: The wartime prices and trade board.

Mr. McNEVIN: It relates to very many other things, so far as that is concerned. This item has reference to the general conduct of the minister's department. That covers a great many things, and this subject, I consider, comes under general administration. It comes under the general work of the minister, among the many other things.

I have only a very brief table to place on record, and I suggest I am entitled to that privilege. When I review what took place here yesterday I think it would be unfair to prevent my proceeding. I could cite many things of a similar nature which happened yesterday, and which took a very great deal longer. In fact one hon. member spent forty minutes on a speech touching a subject matter he had discussed last June.

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. member to whom reference is now made obtained unanimous consent.

Mr. McNEVIN: Quite true.

The CHAIRMAN: I would ask the hon. member to state on what point he desires to speak, and then to discuss the point of order raised. In that way he may show the Chair how that discussion would come under item 47.

Mr. McNEVIN: It is a matter which comes well within the purview of the general administration of the Department of Finance.

The CHAIRMAN: What is the subject matter the hon. member wishes to discuss?

Mr. McNEVIN: The subject is that of the whole milk producers of Canada. I am referring to whole milk production and consumption in Canada.

The CHAIRMAN: Surely that should come under the item referring to dairy products, discussed under the Department of Agriculture. I do not believe that the problems of whole milk dealers in Canada are a proper subject of discussion on this item.

Mr. McNEVIN: I should like to add this in connection with the very same matter, that I discussed the butter situation on an item in the Department of Agriculture, and discussed it again when the Minister of Finance was before the house. I understood the minister had given me an undertaking yesterday that I would be permitted to make a short statement. If he wishes to withdraw that privilege I will accept his decision, but I do not think it will facilitate the passage of the estimates.

Mr. ILSLEY: I certainly did not understand that I gave any such undertaking. The facts