

Mr. MACLEAN (Prince): I think it would be only fair to give a tabulated statement regarding the different provinces. We would like to know where this hog cholera is. Perhaps the minister has not the information.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I understand that hog cholera is more prevalent in this province and in British Columbia. There is also some in Quebec. I understand there is a little all over; but in some provinces it is almost exterminated, while British Columbia and Ontario have probably more than other provinces, but not to such an extent as to make it pronouncedly conspicuous.

Mr. SUTHERLAND: Do I understand that, during the year 1920, only 89 hogs were slaughtered for which compensation was refused?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: That was for the year ending March 31, 1920. A very small number of hogs were slaughtered that year. These amounts correspond to the totals I have cited; there is a relationship between them. In 1920, the total number of swine destroyed was 1642; the next year the total number was 3,354, twice as many.

Mr. SUTHERLAND: The matter which I brought to the minister's attention last night occurred in March, 1920, when over 200 animals belonging to one man were slaughtered and compensation was refused. This must be for a different year.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: All hogs actually slaughtered in one year may not appear in that year's accounts. As fiscal years come together, payment for some hogs slaughtered in one year will appear in the accounts for the following year. That is unavoidable. That is so in the case of the year 1921, where the number slaughtered increases from 89 to 1,341. Should there be a heavy slaughter at the end of one fiscal year, the number will show big at the beginning of the next year.

Mr. SUTHERLAND: It seems remarkable that there should have been so many during the year 1921. The impression prevails in many quarters that it was the policy of the department to discontinue the licensing of people to feed garbage to their hogs; and if the purpose is to stop the spread of the disease, I do not know that it is not a good policy to pursue. Was any effort made in that year to discourage the feeding of garbage by withholding compensation from those who had sustained

losses? It has been pointed out to me that a number of people have had their animals destroyed and that the department has refused to issue licenses.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: This large increase in hogs that were slaughtered without compensation in 1921 was due to the fact that we had a larger amount of imported bacon. Inasmuch as 90 per cent of hog cholera is traceable to garbage, there was thought to be a relationship between the amount of hog cholera, and the larger amount of importations of American bacon, which proves that that is the source of the contagion. That is good circumstantial evidence, at all events.

Mr. SUTHERLAND: Does the minister contend that the importation of American bacon was the chief source of the hog cholera that was introduced into this country?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Yes. The portion that goes into the swill barrel carries the germ. With regard to the matter of discouraging the licensing of the feeding of garbage, licenses have been refused men who violated the regulations in the past. Such men could not have their licenses renewed, and as a matter of fact they did not get them in the first place until they complied with the conditions laid down. The only change that has been contemplated at all has been the substitution of larger kettles for cooking garbage, so as to avoid the necessity of procuring more expensive boilers. It has been pointed out that if the hog owners were allowed to use larger kettles that could be looked after by unskilled labour, they could feed more cheaply than if they had an expensive boiler that necessitated the services of a semi-expert when the boss was away from home. I have not had an opportunity of looking into the question, but it seems rational enough.

Mr. SUTHERLAND: Last night I asked for information with regard to the amount paid by the Department of Agriculture in the way of freight and expenses on carloads of cattle during the year 1921. I think the minister promised to give that information to-day.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: The following is a memorandum with regard to the cost of free freight policy for 1921:

Memorandum re Car Lot and Free Freight Policy	
Cost of free freight policy for 1921—	
Eastern Canada.. . . .	\$ 47 29
Western Canada.. . . .	22,414 75