

insects doing damage to agricultural products, to the extent of something over \$100,000,000 a year. The increase of \$8,000 is made up, first, by a grant to the Imperial Bureau of Entomology amounting to \$5,000. This Imperial Bureau has its headquarters in London, and consists of representatives of all the British dominions. It carries on investigation there, and gathers information regarding various insect parasites from all over the world. The Bureau is contributed to and maintained by the various Dominions that are interested in it. The Bureau also issues from time to time certain printed matter giving the latest information regarding the insects in question. This information is available to our Department at any time it is required, and where its value in particular comes in is, that in the event of any strange insect appearing among our crops in Canada from which we expect damage we can immediately find out the life history of that insect and all the particulars that are known concerning it, by applying to the Bureau in London. The other \$3,000 is to cover extension work; certain extra assistance will be required in the fall this year in connection with the corn bore infection in the corn growing counties in southern Ontario; for extra printed matter and general expenses of the office.

Mr. FIELDING: The minister referred to a Bureau in London. By whom is Canada represented at that Bureau?

Mr. TOLMIE: We have no representative on the ground, but we contribute to the maintenance of the office and for that reason all the information gathered is available to us on application, in addition to the printed material that is issued regularly.

Mr. MORPHY: Will the minister state what other Dominions are contributing to the maintenance of this Bureau and the amount of such contributions?

Mr. TOLMIE: I am sure that India, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand are contributing, but I cannot at present give the hon. member the exact amount in each case.

Mr. FIELDING: I suppose the reports issued by the Bureau in question will show the manner in which these sums of money are being expended, and by reference to the reports we could get the desired information?

Mr. TOLMIE: Yes. I understand that information is printed.

Mr. BUREAU: Before this item carries I would like to have a point settled in connection with a ruling which was given by the Chair on Tuesday night. I do not dispute the ruling, and I am not going to argue the matter, but it was to the effect that when an item was carried in Committee of Supply any minister could call the estimates of his department, or could call the estimates of any department, practically at any time when the Committee of Supply was sitting, and the only way by which we could hold back the calling of the items of a special department which we had not agreed to discuss at the time, was not to let the particular estimate under consideration pass. Now, I do not desire to obstruct the passage of the estimates of the Minister of Agriculture; on the contrary my desire, if anything is that they should be put through with all possible despatch. But I notice that last night when the hon. member for Shelburne and Queen's (Mr. Fielding) asked the Prime Minister what business would be taken up to-day he received the following reply:

To-morrow is Government day. The orders to be taken up will include the motion to go into Supply upon the Estimates of the Department of Agriculture and any others that we may be entitled to consider.

Now that is rather a vague statement. The Minister of Trade and Commerce (Sir George Foster) and the Minister of Justice (Mr. Doherty) will, I am sure, bear me out in the statement that in former years it has always been customary for the Government to make a definite statement each night when adjourning as to what work would be taken up next day. That has been the practice ever since Confederation. But now we seem to be drifting into rather a vague policy, and it is just as well to have the point settled now as to the right course to pursue, in order that there may be no misunderstanding in the future. For my part I am willing to further the dispatch of the business of the House, but it is desirable that in respect to the conduct of affairs there should be definiteness and not vagueness. If it is going to be a question of taking some small advantage out of this vagueness, I am prepared to discuss the matter to a conclusion. If we cannot have the required understanding then in my opinion hon. gentlemen on this side should continue speaking to this item until we are vouchsafed the information as to what is coming next. I think we are entitled to be treated with more deference than appears to have been the case, and I