

persons had 3,000 bushels or more. This greatly increased the amount of inspection required, and this additional amount is necessary. It represents largely the increase in inspection expenses brought about by the amendments made last session. I could give the items making up the \$250,000 if that is desired.

Mr. PERLEY: We can get that on the main estimates.

Mr. GARDINER: Yes, I have it here.

Mr. PERLEY: Are there any great number of cases not adjusted yet?

Mr. GARDINER: There are not as many this year as there were a year ago. Some cases are being dealt with from day to day.

Mr. ROSS (Souris): I take it that this vote is to cover both office and field administration. Upon what basis are field inspectors paid?

Mr. GARDINER: They are paid on a per diem basis, but I am not just sure of the exact amount per diem. I can get that when the main estimates are before the committee. The total amount for salaries is \$42,500; the total amount for wages, field and office, is \$130,000, while other items, such as travelling and field expenses, total \$149,000.

Mr. McNEVIN: What were the total expenditures under this item?

Mr. GARDINER: The total amount for administration expenses is \$348,675. I have not the detailed items here, and I can give them only from memory. It was nine million and some odd dollars for the first year, and between six and seven million for the second year up to date. There are, however, still some expenditures to be made.

Mr. COLDWELL: There has been considerable dissatisfaction over the operation of this act. With the experience we are getting with this new form of crop insurance, if I may call it that, I think it will be realized that there is need for some adjustment in the legislation from year to year. I am simply expressing the hope, which I know is shared by a number of hon. members, that after the Easter recess the minister will see fit to suggest some amendments to this measure in order to make it more workable and more just to the individual farmer. There should be some legislation to iron out some of the difficulties which have been encountered in the operation of this act during the past year.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): When the main estimates are before the committee, perhaps

[Mr. Gardiner.]

the minister could let us have a list of these field men and particulars of salaries and expenses paid.

Mr. GARDINER: I believe there is on my desk now, waiting for my approval, a return which gives that information.

Mr. PERLEY: I asked for that return on February 27 and I intended to inquire about it to-day.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): The convention of rural municipalities of Saskatchewan urged upon the government and upon the Saskatchewan members consideration of having this whole scheme placed upon an individual farm unit basis. I am not going to take the time to argue the advantages of that. I believe administrative costs would be reduced considerably and the whole plan would be on a much fairer basis.

Mr. GARDINER: Consideration is being given to the possibility of bringing down amendments as suggested by the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggar. Amendments would, of course, bring up the question which has just been raised by the hon. member for Weyburn. I am not at all sure that we can go as far as the municipalities suggest. I would say that if we did, it would multiply the cost of doing the work in just the same way as adding the three thousand last year added \$98,000 this year. This has put it partly on an individual basis.

Mr. FAIR: If the return on the minister's desk is for the hon. member for Qu'Appelle, I would suggest that the minister look in another corner and see if he cannot find a return there for me.

Mr. GARDINER: I think the return referred to is also there.

Mr. QUELCH: Has there been any change in the attitude of the government regarding applications? I mentioned this to the minister the other day, and he said that the government were not going to change their decision, but I have recently received a letter from Alberta stating that a letter has been received from Regina to the effect that this question is being reconsidered. That impression has got around, and I should like a definite statement from the minister as to whether there will be a reconsideration of applications made after October 31.

Mr. GARDINER: So far as I know, no reconsideration is being given to applications made by municipalities or provincial governments after October 31. I think it has been definitely decided both by the board and by