

by agronomists and which was attended by from two hundred to three hundred people at one time. It would be false economy to discontinue these demonstration stations which I believe are being maintained at very little cost to the department and the country as a whole.

There is another matter which I want to bring to the minister's attention. It was understood that two years ago a poultry promoter was to be appointed for northern Ontario and North Timiskaming, and I believe that applications were received for the position. I do not believe that the appointment has yet been made, or at all events no such poultry promoter has ever functioned in northern Ontario. In Quebec they have such a man and he is doing wonderful work. One can readily realize what it means to our settlers, many of whom have graduated to the farming class, and to the industry of agriculture generally when I say that a carload of eggs is brought into the town of Timmins practically every week from outside of our section of the country, whereas under proper direction our own section of the country could supply that demand. We should encourage the settlers and farmers in this section of the country. I am surprised that this official has not been doing anything for the last two years. I understand the appointment has been sanctioned but the position has not been filled. We hear of people being settled in this section of the country and they should be given as much assistance as possible. Could the minister answer the two questions I have answered?

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): The hon. member's first question was in connection with the illustration stations. I agree with the hon. member that these stations are very important, and there is no intention to curtail their numbers in any way. I am sure he will agree with me when I say that with so many of these stations distributed throughout the country it is necessary that a close check be kept in order to see just what stations are giving value for the money expended. The hon. member's other question would come under the item dealing with live stock, and I shall be glad to look into the matter. I thought there was a possibility it might be a provincial rather than a federal promoter. However, I shall be glad to look into the matter.

Mr. BRADLETTE: The Ontario government closed the demonstration farm at Hearst. There was located at that farm one of the

ablest officials in the country. This gentleman is now working at the Kapuskasing experimental farm. I should like to know if he is in the employ of the federal government.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): When the provincial government decided to close the farm at Hearst we made an arrangement whereby the gentleman to whom my hon. friend refers would still continue to carry on extension work for the provincial government with his headquarters at the federal experimental farm at Kapuskasing. He is not an employee of the federal government; he is still with the provincial government but has his headquarters at the farm.

Mr. CARMICHAEL: I should like to say a few words in connection with the illustration stations. For the past two or three sessions I have spoken favourably of the work done by these stations. We have two in my constituency one near the town of Kindersley and the other near the village of Loverna. There is a capable man in charge of the Kindersley station and I have always been able to speak very highly of the work accomplished. I do not think I need review at this session the splendid results obtained. I was not able to speak with any authority last year of the work done at Loverna but since last session I have made it my business to get first hand information in connection with that station. I am now able to report to the minister that it is doing splendid work, possibly better than the work done at Kindersley. This station is in charge of a very competent operator Mr. Robert Brumwell. He has been experimenting with brome, western rye and alfalfa grasses, as well as with different crop rotations. Perhaps the most important work carried on by Mr. Brumwell is in connection with soil drifting. He lives in that section of the province which is subject to considerable soil drifting, and he is carrying on his experiments without any financial assistance from the government. I understand he has a fifty-eight acre plot of ground which he uses for experimental purposes, and, if I am not mistaken, the regular rate paid by the government is \$5 per acre. The soil drifting work is something which he is throwing in free of charge. In spite of the very dry weather which has prevailed in the country with accompanying soil drifting, Mr. Brumwell has produced an average of twenty bushels of wheat per acre over a five year period. He has also accomplished considerable in the growing of grasses in soils usually not suitable for this growth. Another important function of this station is the distributing of seed to