

Supply—Agriculture

any experimental station in Prince Edward Island. My memory is that there are ten in that province. The general practice is to continue those experimental stations at any particular location so long as it is necessary to conduct the investigations and distribute the information which they were set up to do.

It does happen from time to time that that work is completed in that locality and the station may be closed, or the work may be taken up by another station some distance away. The thing which most commonly happens is that the individual owning the land does not wish to have it carried on any longer or the land changes hands and the individual who purchases the land is not anxious to continue or is not the type of person who likes to do that sort of experimental work, which necessitates people being on his land from time to time to receive instructions. Then we have to change the location. These are the chief reasons for changing at any time, but there has been no change whatsoever in policy.

Mr. McLure: I just wish to say that this station was not closed because the man was incapable or anything like that. I understand that he could not afford to continue on the small amount he was receiving from the department. I know that his work as an experimental station farmer has been excellent, and the community was very proud of him and of the experimental station or farm that he had there.

Mr. Browne (St. John's West): I hold in my hand a copy of the supplementary estimates. There are only three items in them, none of which refers to Newfoundland. Newfoundland came into confederation on April 1, which is six months ago. The minister has now informed the committee that he does not know whether anything has been spent down there or whether anything is to be spent there.

Mr. Gardiner: I might say for my hon. friend's information that these supplementaries are expenditures of the last year. The supplementaries for the coming period are not yet in. They are not yet passed.

Mr. Browne (St. John's West): It says:

To initiate the extension of normal dominion government services to the province of Newfoundland for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1950.

Mr. Gardiner: That is the year we are half through. No expenditures have been put in so far as the estimates which are before us now are concerned, and so far as I can remember there are none in for agriculture for Newfoundland. That is what I said at the beginning, but we have made inquiries down there. As a matter of fact, when the bring-

ing in of the new province was under discussion I raised that question myself, and my understanding is that up to that time claims in connection with it had not been clarified, and therefore were not included. I imagine that will be corrected. As a matter of fact, I have asked to have it corrected just as soon as possible.

Mr. Browne (St. John's West): May I point out that there is in the cabinet a learned man from Newfoundland who should be able to give the minister any information he requires about that province. I should like to know if he would be good enough to inform me whether it is a fact that in the past six months not one cent of the vote for agriculture has been spent in Newfoundland.

Mr. Gardiner: As a matter of fact, the vote dealing with compensation for animals that have been destroyed is not divided up by provinces. It is one vote for doing a job, and the law with regard to that now applies to Newfoundland the same as to any other province, and any payments which are required to be made there will be made. The same thing is true with regard to the amounts for freight which are paid on grain which is being shipped to the eastern part of Canada from the west. I understand that up to date there is \$250,000 in that item alone. Anything that is provided by legislation or legalized by legislation must be done in the new province just the same as in the other provinces.

Mr. Browne (St. John's West): Perhaps the minister was not expecting these questions tonight. I wonder whether he can give any further information, or is there any other information?

Mr. Lennard: The item had better stand.

Mr. Stick: I take it that when we deal with the supplementary estimates the information will be forthcoming. We are not dealing with the supplementaries tonight.

Mr. Gardiner: I now have the supplementary estimates for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1950, and they read:

AGRICULTURE

Science service—

666. Plant protection—further amount required, \$9,325.

Demobilization and reconversion—

667. Freight assistance on western feed grains—further amount required, \$250,000.

668. Agricultural lime assistance—further amount required, \$25,000.

I understand that these further amounts are required because these expenditures are to be made in Newfoundland. In the general estimates we do not divide it up by provinces, and we do not divide it up in the