

Mr. CARVELL: Would the Minister of Finance lay on the Table the order in council appointing this last commission?

Sir THOMAS WHITE: I think it was laid on the Table to-day.

Arts and Agriculture—For the administration and carrying out of the provisions of the Agricultural Instruction Act, \$25,000.

Mr. CARVELL: Is it the Agricultural Instruction Act which provides that certain moneys shall be handed over to the provinces amounting to \$10,000,000?

Mr. REID: The details of the whole sum are set forth below.

Mr. CARVELL: What becomes of the \$25,000?

Mr. BURRELL: The \$25,000 is to cover the cost of the administration of the Act. We have four or five officers in connection with the general inspection work. It also covers the publication and a part of the cost of the publication of the Agricultural Gazette, which publishes the record of the work that the provinces do under the \$10,000,000 grant.

Mr. NESBITT: What inspection is there?

Mr. BURRELL: The vote as it stands this year will be \$1,100,000. The officers work in collaboration with the provinces. There is correspondence and there are consultations and inspections from one cause or another. We have a commissioner, an officer in Quebec who thoroughly understands the French language, an officer and a stenographer in the office and an additional inspector for keeping in closer touch with the provinces in order to co-operate more fully with them in all lines of work.

Mr. CARVELL: Does the minister exercise any supervision over the provinces as to the manner in which they shall invest their portion of the fund? Up to the last three or four months the \$45,000 or \$50,000 which was handed over to my province was entirely eaten up by salaries. When I saw this \$25,000 item, I wondered if it was just a continuation of the same old story, because, so far as education in New Brunswick was concerned, it was practically nil, but so far as the multiplication of offices was concerned, it was a wonderful success.

Mr. BURRELL: I am sure my hon. friend can hardly expect me to agree entirely with that version of the story. An agreement is entered into with each provincial government, conforming to the general principles of the Act. As a rule the suggestions of the provinces are followed.

but if we think that certain proposed expenditures do not conform to the general provisions of this Act we have negotiations with the province and possibly some alteration is made. The appropriation of the money for the current year, 1917-18, for New Brunswick includes, under the head of agricultural schools, capital account, construction and equipment, furnishing, agricultural and dairy schools, \$1,000; salaries and maintenance, \$3,000. Under the head of instruction and demonstration, it includes district representatives, \$8,000; bee-keeping demonstration and instruction work, \$500; soil and drainage instruction work, \$4,000; horticulture, demonstration work, \$5,500; short courses, \$3,500; for live stock educational work, \$7,000; dairying, \$4,000; poultry, \$1,600; fertilizer educational and demonstration work, \$3,000; for entomology, \$1,000; young people's clubs, \$2,000; agricultural societies, \$4,000; women's institutes, \$4,500; educational instruction in public, high and normal schools, household science, training teachers, grants, \$9,785; school fairs, educational work, \$1,725. This makes a total of \$64,110. Although it may be true that a good deal of this seems to go in salaries, I need hardly point out that it is along the lines of the best work done in all progressive countries that is strengthening the educational side of agricultural work. That is what brought Belgium and Germany to the state of efficiency which they had attained shortly before the war.

Mr. CARVELL: I appreciate that, and I am glad to get this list of the distribution of the moneys. I quite understand that a large amount of that money, if properly expended, ought to produce valuable results. I do not know whether there will be any change or not; I sincerely hope there will. I noticed among the items read by the minister, \$4,000 for drainage and soil. That is one of the greatest scandals we ever had in New Brunswick. They simply hired half a dozen fellows who did not know anything about running the business. They would work for a few hours wherever they wanted to. It was a machine, but it was a political machine. My friends are in power in New Brunswick now, and if they carry on this thing in the same way that the others did, I hope my hon. friend will withdraw the grant and exercise some sort of a supervision over it himself. I hope we shall have a better condition of affairs. Then there is a poultry expert at \$1,600. The poultry expert was simply the brother of one of the members for the county of