

Sir GEORGE PERLEY: Where is the main central bureau? Is it in London?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: The central administrative offices are in London under Mr. Chadwick.

Sir GEORGE PERLEY: Is he in one of the government offices.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Yes, and the others are located at various points throughout the United Kingdom.

Item agreed to.

Grant to the Department of Agriculture, province of Nova Scotia, to complete amortization of the debt against the science building at the Agricultural college, Truro, Nova Scotia, \$8,389.08.

Mr. GARDINER: Is this the last payment necessary to complete this contract?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Yes.

Item agreed to.

Dairying, including grant of \$5,000 to the National Dairy Council and necessary new buildings, \$295,000.

Mr. LUCAS: Will the minister explain the increase in this item?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: This is for a laboratory to be established at the experimental farm. It is primarily for the purpose of giving us accommodation for conducting our research work in dairying. We have a very important export product in cheese and occasionally we have found trouble with bacteria. It takes some time to develop and we have found difficulty in discovering it without more up to date equipment than we have at the present time. For instance, in Grenville county recently—and the hon. member for that constituency spoke to me about the matter—there was some difficulty in connection with shipments of cheese from certain factories. It was discovered that after the cheese was of a certain age it developed deleterious bacteria. Complaints were made and we took up the problem even with the facilities that we have in this city, and found out the cause of the bacterial action. We discovered that it was due to the preservative that was put in the curd and that should not have been put in. It was thought proper to add saltpetre to cheese to discourage the development of certain flavours. But it was found to have the opposite effect. It was a good thing that this was discovered before it had continued for any length of time, because a number of cheese factories were pursuing this practice and they were notified to

discontinue it. Instead of preserving the cheese, it had the opposite effect. We want to do work of that nature expeditiously so as to check any unwise or harmful practice before it adversely affects the cheese.

Mr. ROWE: How many new inspectors are included in this vote?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I do not think any particular inspectors will be necessary on account of the establishment of this laboratory. I think we shall have to have one or two more graders for the purpose of keeping track of the work. This trouble got quite a start before it was drawn to our attention. As a matter of fact it did not develop until the cheese got across the water, and we want to keep closer tab than we are able to do at present. We want to lock the door before the horse is stolen, before any danger arises, and that is why we require these additional facilities.

Mr. GARDINER: I notice a grant of \$5,000 to the National Dairy Council. What, in the minister's opinion, are the functions of that council? Is it primarily political, for the purpose of advocating an increased tariff on dairy products?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: This institution was organized before I had anything to do with the Department of Agriculture, but I have found it a very useful organization in promoting the cause of dairying.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): And the cause of protection.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: It was organized before I came here, but I do not consider it the better or the worse for that. I remember the late D'Arcy Scott, the secretary, and the late Mr. Stonehouse, the president, were there when I had first to do with it. I found they were very efficient officers working for the general promotion of the dairying industry throughout Canada. I have reason to think the activities in that direction are quite as useful still. If my hon. friend has anything he wishes to bring to my attention with regard to the activities of the National Dairy Council, I think I have under my hand a statement with regard to what they are engaged in doing.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): Does the minister not think that the activities of the National Dairy Council have, for the past two years, been directed very largely towards the cause of the protectionist, rather than to the improvement of the dairy industry?