

eries. Our market is principally the United States, and when there is a large catch they get news of it and put the price down to an absurdly low figure. We have sometimes to sell our fish at a cent and a half per pound, which does not pay for the catching and marketing of it. It seems to me that the fishing industry should have some encouragement. I would ask the minister to give it some assistance by aiding the establishment of freezers.

Mr. FISHER. I could not do that under the Act as it stands, but with the change I am asking parliament to adopt, I shall be able to do it. Anybody then who wishes to establish cold storage for fish would be able to get a bonus of 30 per cent on the cost of the system.

Mr. MARSHALL. I understand that fish have to be frozen, so that a freezer would be required.

Mr. FISHER. A cold storage warehouse could be made to freeze just as well as to keep chilled. It is a mere matter of reducing the temperature by increasing the power.

Mr. SEXSMITH. I see in the Auditor General's Report a charge of \$250,000 under the heading of Health of Animals and \$52,000 for the development of the live stock industry. Why should the former cost so much more?

Mr. FISHER. The item regarding health of animals is so large because we have to pay compensation for the slaughtered animals. A few years ago we undertook to stamp out glanders, and some years before hog cholera. We succeeded in stamping out hog cholera practically. I warned the House when we undertook to stamp out glanders, that for some years it would cost as high as \$150,000 a year to slaughter and pay compensation for the horses we were obliged to kill. I am glad to say we are reducing that. The year before last the cost was \$102,000 and last year a little over \$80,000. I hope it will be much more reduced. We have not only had to pay compensation but also to put on a very strong force of watchers along the American frontier. In the Northwest especially, we found the outbreaks of glanders largely traced to horses brought across the line. There seemed to be almost a system of buying suspicious animals in the United States and bringing them over and then when they were tested and found diseased we had to slaughter them and pay compensation. So we had to put on a force to test the horses brought to the country. The last few years we have been testing every horse brought from the United States. It is largely because of this, that the reduction has taken place. I may say to my hon. friend from Qu'Appelle (Mr. Lake) that there were some six dogs shown to be diseased in the neighbourhood

of Moosomin and that district was quarantined six months and we required all dogs to be muzzled.

Mr. LAKE. How many dogs were infected with the disease?

Mr. FISHER. About six confirmed and others suspected.

Mr. LAKE. Confirmed by scientific test?

Mr. FISHER. Yes.

Mr. LAKE. There was a great deal of comment in Moosomin at the time over this. The expenditure seemed very large for the carrying out of the muzzling order and looking after this work. Two men were employed at \$2 a day each. And \$4 a day for livery. One man apparently put in 113 days livery work. What check had the government upon these two men and what special qualifications had they for the work? What were the instructions from the department to the men who were carrying on this work? Had they been told the conditions, it seems to me they would have been able to purchase a team and rig for less than they paid for the horse-hire, and, at the same time, could have handed over the horses and rig to the department. It seems to me a very extravagant expenditure indeed to pay that sum for a continuous service of 113 days. It is hard to credit the statement that it took all that time to properly quarantine even a district of the size the minister has described. There were two men, one employed for 71 days at \$2 per day for wages and \$4 for a horse, and the other for 113 days at the same rates. It seems to me that the service might have been much less expensively performed.

Mr. FISHER. We did not know at the time of the outbreak how long it was going to last or how long we should need to maintain this quarantine. I think the rate of \$2 a day is not too much for a man competent for that kind of work, especially considering the season of the year.

Mr. LAKE. What were their qualifications?

Mr. FISHER. They were good, solid men, who knew the country. Their duty was to drive about and watch for cases of this disease. It was responsible work, and any man above the condition of a labourer would get this amount for his time. As to the time occupied, had we known that the men were to be for months employed, it might have been cheaper to buy a horse, and even if we had to kill it at the end of the time. I do not know what the price of horses was at that time. But \$4 a day for a livery rig in the Northwest is not an out-