

Supply—Agriculture

the man \$25 to transport those horses to Lethbridge to have the vaccinating done. Then he would have to have it done again in about a week or ten days' time, which would cost another \$25. Eventually, the man heard from the purchaser of the animals to the effect that he wanted the team for haying, not for snow removal. Now, perhaps that is a provincial regulation. I am quite in sympathy with the minister or whoever is responsible. We have heard the member for Acadia (Mr. Quelch) say veterinarians find it very difficult to get along since the farms have been mechanized. Perhaps that is the case in this particular district.

I should like to ask whether any encouragement is given the veterinaries or someone who would do such a job as the vaccination of horses. I do not know, but I am told it is not a particularly difficult task. Perhaps some individual with even a smattering of knowledge of that sort of thing could vaccinate horses or cattle. These men who have a smattering of knowledge are not prepared to do it because they cannot get a licence, or something of that kind. The minister knows more about it than I do, but I should like an expression from him about what farmers or others who trade horses can do in such cases. Is the regulation a provincial or dominion regulation?

Mr. Gardiner: In connection with such diseases as glanders, for example, we have a regulation to the effect that those animals must be quarantined and eradicated.

Mr. Hansell: I do not think there was anything wrong with the horses.

Mr. Gardiner: I am saying that is what the dominion does, that is the type of work we do. Many of these other diseases, which are not as readily communicable as some of those with which we deal, are the subject of special provincial regulations. I understand the province of British Columbia has regulations in connection with certain diseases with which they have had some trouble. It is their desire to keep out those diseases which are not covered by any of our regulations. In this particular case, I presume it was one of those diseases that they were fighting. In that case we had nothing to do with it; it is a provincial regulation. From the story which has been related, I would judge it to be one of those cases. If it came within the group with which the dominion deals, we would handle it in just the same way as we handle glanders or other diseases.

Mr. Hansell: Is this licence, which is given a man to practise as a veterinary, granted by the dominion government or by the province?

[Mr. Hansell.]

Mr. Gardiner: It is granted by a provincial association under provincial law, as in the medical profession.

Mr. White (Middlesex East): There are two or three questions I should like to direct to the minister concerning items 17 and 18. Two days ago I asked him about compensation for those cattle that farmers had lost through the T.B. test. I wanted to know whether the payments would be increased. After reading the reply I am of the opinion that the minister's intention is to increase it in due time. I hope that is right.

In looking over the estimates I find that, in the year 1948-49, \$1,007,845 was spent in compensation, while in the year 1949-50, the estimates we are now discussing, the amount allotted is \$1,042,500. This would indicate to me that no provision has been made in these estimates to take care of increased compensation that might be contemplated.

Yesterday I journeyed to Toronto to see slaughtered a herd of 44 cattle from my constituency that had reacted to the T.B. test. I mention this case only because many other farmers, not only in Middlesex, but in Oxford and many other counties of western Ontario, are finding themselves in a similar situation. The problem is not only the loss of the cattle; for if the farmer is going to continue in business he has to replace those animals. He has an investment in buildings. He has his crops stored and is now without income. When he comes to replace those cattle he finds the money he has received for the reactors is far from adequate. I have noticed that it seems easy for the government to put through an order in council when other departments want to spend money, but they have been hesitating about this for some time. Could it be because the farmers are not too well organized or that there is only a limited number affected and the government believes it can get by on promises?

The federation of agriculture of the county of Middlesex made representations to the minister about this matter during the last session. They were given assurance that action would be forthcoming. Farmers are wondering just what is likely to happen. I am asking these questions of the minister so that in his reply he can cover the whole matter.

One of the questions in which I was interested concerns the number of cattle in the province of Newfoundland that have been tested for T.B. since Newfoundland became the tenth province. Has the minister that information? How many cattle have been tested in East Middlesex and how many have been tested in West Middlesex during the past year? Is the increased compensation going