

Mr. TOLMIE: I thought I was very clear in stating that we had done this work in co-operation with the Provincial Governments. We maintain a staff of experts here in Ottawa who study these various insects, and are able to give very valuable information as to the methods that should be adopted. The life history of a number of parasites has been studied, because you must know their history before you can suggest any remedy. We have also assisted the provinces in experimental work with the various appliances, such as gas, the doser, and various insecticides. We also had men on the ground giving advice and studying the whole situation, and the provinces get the full benefit of any information they may gather.

Mr. ROBB: Are not the taxpayers in some cases paying the salaries of two men where one might do the work?

Mr. TOLMIE: Our men do the directing, and offer the results of the information they have gathered. There is no duplication of the staff we maintain here in any one of the provinces. The provinces carry out most of the work, and put up most of the expense.

Mr. SINCLAIR (Antigonish and Guysborough): Do fumigation stations come under this heading?

Mr. TOLMIE: Yes.

Mr. SINCLAIR (Antigonish and Guysborough): How many are there in Nova Scotia?

Mr. TOLMIE: None now; there used to be one at Digby. Our station is now located at St. John, N.B.

Mr. SINCLAIR (Antigonish and Guysborough): I have been informed that plants coming from nurseries in the province of Ontario to Nova Scotia have to be sent to Digby to be fumigated. My own experience in getting roses for my garden has been that the insects are killed so effectually that the plants themselves are dead when they arrive. If this matter is not in the minister's department, I have nothing to say about it.

Mr. TOLMIE: There were stations at Digby and Truro, maintained in co-operation with the Provincial Government, but that agreement has expired, and we are not doing business at either of these points now. Our station in the Maritime Provinces is at St. John.

Mr. SINCLAIR (Antigonish and Guysborough): Then plants coming to Nova

Scotia from Ontario nurseries must first go to St. John, N.B., to be fumigated?

Mr. TOLMIE: Not necessarily. They can go direct to the purchaser in Nova Scotia, unless Nova Scotia provides otherwise. It is plants coming from the United States that we fumigate.

Mr. SINCLAIR (Antigonish and Guysborough): I was speaking of plants coming from the city of Hamilton, in Ontario. I would suggest to the minister that if his department is going to continue that work, the most convenient point in Nova Scotia would be Truro. It takes considerable time to send goods to Truro to Digby and back again to Truro, and then on to their destination. The plants are delayed so long on the way that it is injurious to them. I have not been able to understand how under the past arrangement Truro was not utilized instead of Digby, especially in shipments to eastern Nova Scotia.

Mr. TOLMIE: That inter-provincial trade is all taken care of by the Provincial Governments. I shall be very glad, however, to look into my hon. friend's suggestion with regard to Truro.

Mr. CURRIE: In the early part of this session members were deluged with a very alarming pamphlet about the prevalence of what is known as the bud worm in the spruce forests of Canada. As the exports of spruce products from this country amount to between forty and fifty million dollars a year, one would be led to believe by this pamphlet that in ten years all our forests would be destroyed. What department is that under? As we are now on an item which virtually covers it, may I ask if there is any department of the Government taking steps to stop that pest? I understand that it was in Quebec and is now in the Timiskaming region of Ontario. It is destroying the forest right and left, and I should like to know what, if anything, the Dominion Government is doing in the matter.

Mr. TOLMIE: There is at present a staff studying the spruce bud worm, and as soon as we have information available of any value we shall be glad to publish it. Indeed, we shall do that from time to time.

Mr. McDERMAND: What particular form of the European corn worm is affecting Ontario? This strikes me as a very important matter, and as a considerable quantity of seed is procured from affected districts to supply the rest of Ontario, it