

for laying their case before the tariff advisory board? The minister brought this council into existence; it is a child of the minister's. I have never looked upon the minister as a person who would desire to eat his own young, even though on occasions, in moments of vexation, he may desire to bite the one that comes from Weyburn. But the council does present the case before the tariff advisory board on such matters as reasonable tariffs. What other organization in Canada could so readily draw together all the points in connection with the case and present it in orderly fashion before that board? I can hardly imagine that the minister will take seriously the plaintive cry of the free traders. It is not many years since forty members from Quebec pleaded with the government for further protection on vegetables. I remember that the petition contained the name of the present Secretary of State before he became such. He probably has forgotten that he signed it. It contained the name of the chief government whip and the names of thirty-seven or thirty-eight other members from the province of Quebec. The president to-day of the horticultural council is Mr. Lavoie, a man keenly interested in fruits and vegetables in Quebec. I cannot imagine that the minister would be so obdurate as to cut off this grant or that the fruit growers and vegetable growers in Quebec, the maritime provinces, or Ontario or British Columbia would be pleased at his doing so. I cannot imagine that the cutting off of this assistance would be popular in Canada, simply because certain free traders asked that that be done. They are perfectly at liberty to follow the dictates of their consciences with regard to their policy; but why should they have such an influence with the government as to get them to withdraw this grant? I suggest that such action would be most unpopular and I can hardly imagine that the minister will listen to this Jeremiah cry.

Mr. ADSHEAD: I have listened to the argument of the hon. member for Yale with a good deal of interest. By the same principle and the same argument, if this vote passes, as it probably will, we should grant \$8,000 to the council of agriculture in order that they may be able to present the claims of agriculture. They should be equally important with the council of horticulture as a political interest, and by the same token, a grant of \$8,000 should be made to the consumers' league so that they may be able to present their views. I submit that those two grants should be made along the same lines.

Item agreed to.

Seed, feed and fertilizer control, including grants to seed fairs, etc., and necessary buildings, also grant of \$13,000 to Canadian Seed Growers' Association, \$625,000.

Mr. FANSHER (Lambton): What is the nature of this seed, feed and fertilizer control?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: This branch is presided over by Commissioner George Clark and his duties are outlined in the item. Part of his duty is to look after the seeds, including the garden seeds, field seeds, and also the clovers and grasses. The feed is under the Feeding Stuffs Act. That act has been revised in parliament during the last few years. The fertilizers are the artificial ones.

As regards grants to seed fairs, those subventions were made for many years to seed fairs before I had anything to do with the department. The item also covers necessary buildings and a grant of \$13,000 to the Canadian Seed Growers' Association. The increase in the vote is due to the necessity of erecting a seed laboratory in the city of Ottawa owing to the old one, which was a private dwelling originally, having to be dismantled. It was in the way of the new building that is being erected and it has had to be torn down. Therefore in order that we may have proper accommodation, a new laboratory is to be constructed on the experimental farm, for the purpose of housing the staff of the former seed laboratory which was situated near the power plant.

There is \$150,000 for the establishment of a seed cleaning plant and storage plant in Saskatchewan. This is expected to be and will be, I think, in the city of Moose Jaw. This building is being erected primarily for the purpose of taking care of the government's cereal products which sometimes require treatment. We have not the facilities at the present time to treat them. For instance, let me take the case of reward wheat, one of our finest wheats, the best I am aware of that has been introduced. It has a blemish called blue smut on the inside of the wheat. It cannot be treated in the regular way that loose smut can. It has to be treated with hot water and we are obliged, for lack of facilities, to send out to 5,000 farmers wheat that is contaminated with this blue smut, and ask them with their lesser facilities, to try to treat it with hot water and thereby kill the germ inside it before they sow it. We have found in the past that it is somewhat dangerous to treat the wheat two or three months in advance, but we found by experimentation last winter that if we treat it and dry it, we can do it safely without retarding the germination of the wheat. The purpose of the new building