

but he should consider the broad question of the cost of distribution. It seems to me that this cost of distribution is more important than the tariff, and if we spent a little money trying to get that cost down I believe we would get somewhere. It would not only reduce the cost of living, but we would be increasing consumption by enlarging the market for our own products.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Mr. Chairman, I cannot take any exception to the remarks of the hon. member but I would draw his attention to the fact that the term "farm economics" is a very wide expression. The qualifications asked for in the advertisement for this vacancy cover exactly what my hon. friend has been discussing. If my hon. friend desires I will read the advertisement, but it takes care of the services to which he referred.

Mr. ROWE: How large a staff will this appointee have?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: We are calling for only a small staff, an assistant and a secretary.

Mr. ROWE: With the head office in Ottawa?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: There will be just three at the outset.

Item agreed to.

Contributions to Empire Bureau, \$25,000.

Mr. LUCAS: As this is a new vote, will the minister kindly give an explanation?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: At the empire conference of 1923, this question was tentatively brought up; some progress was made, but it was really just a start. At the conference of 1926, at which the government and the department heads were well represented, the matter was dealt with again and a tentative program was laid out for the establishment of these clearing houses or bureaus, for the centralization of agricultural information from the whole empire. Doctor Orr of Rowatt Institute and Sir Robert Greig were appointed in Great Britain to do the initial work in the matter of organizing these bureaus in the different parts of the empire. Many of the dependencies have expressed a desire to work in cooperation with the central bureau in the United Kingdom. One bureau has been established at Edinburgh, which has to do with animal genetics, or animal breeding. There, all the questions, we will say, of contagious abortion, sterility in cows and many other diseases are studied and the causes worked out. Any information we get in Canada or in any other part of the empire, for instance, when we make any discovery with respect to any of these diseases, we immediately forward to

[Mr. Campbell.]

the central bureau which acts as a clearing house and which in turn forwards it to all the rest. All the units of the empire engage in this great work. Therefore we are cooperating with each other, for example one of us finding out something about a particular disease, perhaps not enough to make it public but enough to forward to other workers in the same field of activity so as to put them on their guard as to what course to pursue with respect to the problem. Let me cite the case of rickets in pigs. That comes under the question of animal nutrition. I am sure all farmers in Canada, especially in the west, know what it is to have rickets in pigs. If you once see a rickety pig, you will never forget its appearance. This question is being studied in all parts of the country and if research workers in any country discover something in regard to the cause of it—and it is largely connected with feeding—that information will be transmitted to all other bureaus.

There is another branch that has to do with micrology, that is science which treats of microscopic objects. For instance, it deals with rust and other kindred diseases. We have six of these investigators who are working in cooperation with every part of the empire. Every dominion has joined in this bureau proposition and it is now pretty well established and in line with the central bureau, not only giving information but receiving it in turn.

Mr. ROWE: We have heard about rickety pigs and other things, but we have not heard anything about how the minister is going to spend this \$25,000.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: This is the allocation amongst the various units engaged in this cooperative work:

Contribution from	Amount
United Kingdom.. . . .	£3,750
Colonial Office.. . . .	3,750
Canada.. . . .	3,125
Australia.. . . .	3,125
India.. . . .	2,187.10s.
Union of South Africa.. . . .	1,562.10s.
New Zealand.. . . .	1,250
Irish Free State.. . . .	625
Southern Rhodesia.. . . .	250
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan.. . . .	250
Newfoundland.. . . .	125

Then in addition to these, there are two units that have been operating for some time, one since 1912. The latter is the bureau of micrology and the other I mentioned is the bureau of entomology.

Mr. ROWE: What about the other \$10,000?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: One of them is \$5,000 and the other is \$1,500. They are included in this vote.