

would not allow anything at all for anything over 110 pounds.

Our people would like to find out where these minimum and maximum weight lambs went. When the ordinary housewife goes to the butcher shops she buys lamb, and it is all the same price. There is no distinction made; she is not told that this cut was taken from a lamb weighing less than 70 pounds while that cut was taken from a lamb weighing more than 110 pounds. She pays the same price for all the lamb she buys. There is a feeling abroad in this country that the Canada Packers and Swift's have a strangle hold on the primary producers; people believe the packers and the stock yards are operating under an overhead that is altogether unfair to the primary producers, and the farmers in Canada would like to know exactly why there should be this discrimination in the price of lamb though there is no distinction made when that lamb is sold in the butcher shops.

Mr. BROWN: I am glad to say that for once I can agree with the hon. member for North Renfrew. There is no question but that this is a serious grievance on the part of the producer. Indeed I was told the other day that a man who had shipped lambs under the regulation weight to the Winnipeg market had left only 14 cents per lamb after paying the freight; that is, he received 70 cents for five lambs. There is no doubt that in regard to lambs and hogs under and over weight the producer is heavily discriminated against, and if anything can be done to correct that situation undoubtedly it will be to the benefit of the producer.

Mr. GERSHAW: I should like to ask the minister if the Manyberries experimental range station comes under this item and, if so, whether he could tell me the cost of conducting that station. I should like to know also if there are other stations in Canada doing similar work.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): That is the only station of its kind in Canada, and the cost is approximately \$18,000.

Mr. GERSHAW: Then I should like to point out, Mr. Chairman, that a very special work is being done there in connection with the re-grassing of abandoned range land both with regard to winter and summer pasturage; in connection with how cattle gain under certain conditions, and particularly with regard to general range practice. In view of the fact that no other station in Canada is doing

similar work I should like to ask the minister if these reports could be published separately rather than mixed up with the general reports of the department.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): They were published separately the last time.

Mr. COTNAM: Before leaving the question I brought up I should like to get some assurance from the minister that before the season for marketing lambs comes next fall some action will be taken by the government to see that the primary producer gets fair play. If the position as I have stated it is not correct, if the farmer is getting all that is legitimately coming to him, I think that that should be known and the reasons for it be made plain to the farmers of this country, but if the packers are taking advantage of the farmers, that also should be made known. If the packers, on the other hand, are acting in good faith and everything is perfectly honest, legitimate and aboveboard, then in order to protect them from a feeling that is prevalent throughout the country, the whole situation should be cleared up. The primary producers would then feel that they were not being treated unfairly and that there was no occasion for any resentment against the packing industries of this country. But I repeat that there is a feeling throughout Canada and has been for many years amongst the farming community that the packing industries of this country have a stranglehold upon the farmers and have them at their mercy, and many believe that it is about time that that stranglehold was loosened.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I should like, Mr. Chairman, to follow up what my hon. friend has said if it is in order to discuss it on the vote for experimental farms, but personally I think it would properly come under the live stock vote. However, if we are to have a general discussion of the live stock industry upon the vote for experimental farms, I wish to follow up what my hon. friends from North Renfrew and Lisgar have said.

Mr. VALLANCE: How do you propose to deal with the matter, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Bury): I think the discussion would be more relevant under the live stock vote.

Mr. COTNAM: The matter needs to be fully discussed and I do not see any reason why it should not be discussed on this item as well as on any other.