

Mr. GARDINER: From June to December 1, 1937, the reduction in cattle was 33.4 per cent and in milch cows 8.2 per cent. That is the period during which we were handling the cattle last fall.

Mr. SENN: I am in accordance with what was said by the hon. member for Dufferin-Simcoe (Mr. Rowe) about the importance of this policy and the need for better sires not only in Saskatchewan but throughout the dominion. The report of the department for the year ended March, 1937, states that each year the applications for assistance are greatly in excess of the number of animals available. I believe that animals of all breeds are purchased, and it seems almost incredible that the department could not have found more than 280 bulls suitable for this purpose in 1937. I know of many occasions on which these animals were sent to the stockyards simply because there was no market for them for breeding purposes. I cannot understand why the minister is unable to furnish more money for this purpose. Bulls for breeding are always bought in the early months of the winter, before the estimates are brought down. I am sure money is spent for many other purposes less important than this. What are the determining factors that lead the department to refuse one application and accept another, and who makes the decision?

Mr. GARDINER: Answering the last question first, the general policy is that where the department after investigation is of opinion that the persons concerned are able to and properly should provide their own bulls of proper grade and standard, the department does not undertake to place a bull in that community. The policy really applies in the more outlying districts and places where it is difficult for people to get the services of a high grade bull, and where they are beginning the establishment of herds. Once those herds are established it is not the policy of the department, and never has been, to try to do all the work in connection with raising the standard of cattle.

Mr. SENN: Does the minister suggest that all these applications from outlying districts are filled?

Mr. GARDINER: That is the basis on which they are considered. They might not be what some people would call outlying districts, but districts in which, perhaps because of difficult circumstances, people are starting in to raise such types of cattle for the first time. In connection with this vote, there is an additional amount of \$5,446 which would provide for the purchase of about thirty more

bulls this year than a year ago. Many of the bulls being put out this year would be purchased out of the estimates of last year. This estimate will be for purchases to be made in the winter months of this year for putting out next spring.

Mr. SENN: There comes a time in the life of every animal when it has to be disposed of. Does the department get any return from these animals when they have to be sent to the stockyards, or what disposition is made of them when the clubs are through with them?

Mr. GARDINER: While the bull is of service he is moved about from place to place; he may be with one club this year and another club next year. The department uses them very much as the ordinary breeder would. When they come to the end of the period of service they are disposed of to the stockyards.

Mr. SENN: Does the department get any financial return for them; and if so, how much? Very often an animal is purchased when it is young, and when it is old it has grown to such an extent that if it realizes a reasonable price it is worth pretty nearly as much as when bought in the first place.

Mr. GARDINER: That is true in some cases, but the great majority of them will be sold as bulls at the market price, and as the hon. member knows, that varies greatly. The market for bulls, I understand, is largely for making bologna. If there is a good market for that class of animal they will sell well.

Mr. SENN: The minister has not yet told us whether the department realizes anything from these animals.

Mr. GARDINER: Yes, we realize whatever the market price brings. I have not the figures here.

Mr. CHURCH: What I cannot understand about this department is that in one week we have the main estimates for production services, \$829,000, an increase of \$95,000, about ninety per cent being for the west and ten per cent for the east; then the next week the supplementary estimates are brought down with further sums for the same thing. There seems to be a total lack of business method in the department. The minister has a very large staff of inspectors, yet he cannot figure out in advance of the meeting of parliament how much money is wanted for these production services. In addition to \$95,112 in the main estimates here is another \$24,000 in item 489. Why is it? Is it because some more people come down and ask for additional services? A great many of the sober sensible