

*Supply—Agriculture*

forwarded as it is there. I should not like to have it understood therefore that I am suggesting that, even if the other work were dropped, we might be in a position right away to establish such a plant. But I will give consideration to what the hon. member has said and will have my officials do likewise, and see if there is anything that can be done there.

**Mr. Fulton:** I am glad of the assurance given, but in answer to the first of the points the minister raised, with regard to the distance from Kamloops to Vancouver and the train service, I should like to say this. If that were the only consideration involved I would entirely agree with him. A large part of the difficulty is in the nature of the area served. Kamloops is roughly the centre of the cattle-producing area of British Columbia. From there to Cariboo, or down from the Cariboo to Vancouver where the samples have to go, it is difficult to send them by rail because they have to go down the P.G.E. to Squamish, by boat to Vancouver, back to the normal mail channels and out to the university. Shipment from the Cariboo to Vancouver is slow and laborious whereas from the Cariboo to Kamloops it is much quicker. So it is not just a question of from Kamloops to Vancouver which is adequately served by mail. That is the first thing.

Then as to the other point, there are other areas on the prairies from which they have to ship samples further. The minister said that if he set up a service in Kamloops it might be a precedent for other areas asking for extra services as well. I think the answer to that suggestion is this. While there are not as many cattle in British Columbia as there are in the prairies, there are very few beef cattle produced in the Vancouver area. The whole beef cattle producing area in the province is roughly centred in Kamloops. If you are going to carry out these tests in British Columbia, it seems to me that Kamloops is logically the place to carry them out, for that reason, and because from the outlying districts communications into Kamloops are much quicker than they are into Vancouver.

**Mr. Quelch:** The farmers in the Morrin district, which is a tuberculosis-free area, are glad to see that the work of testing cattle is to be started once again. I think the situation in that area is probably similar to that in other districts. When that area was set up—

**Mr. Gardiner:** Can we declare item 17 carried if we are going on with item 18?

**Mr. Quelch:** Does not item 17 deal with T.B.?

**Mr. Gardiner:** Item 18 deals with pay and compensation.

**Mr. Quelch:** I am not going to talk about that.

**Mr. Gardiner:** Oh, all right.

**Mr. Quelch:** As I was saying, when this area was set up some years ago, it was understood that additional areas would be set up in the surrounding country. But unfortunately, owing to the difficulty of securing the services of veterinaries the government had to discontinue that service. Consequently, as the minister can readily understand, a most unsatisfactory situation has developed there. I am sure the minister understands what I am referring to, so I will not say anything more about it.

The question I want to ask the minister is this. In districts where there is already a veterinary established, in which there is a T.B.-free area, will it be the policy of the government to utilize the services of that veterinary in carrying out the tests? I think the minister realizes only too well that many of these veterinaries in the country are not having any too easy time in making a living. They are performing a valuable service, and it certainly would help them to make a living if the government could give this work to them where they are qualified to do it.

**Mr. Gardiner:** Yes. We have now about 550 men on that work; 300 of them are part-time men and about 250 are full-time. Whenever a district is set up and there is a veterinary established there, we give him all the work that he can do.

**Mr. Hansell:** I should like to ask the minister a question with respect to the vaccination of horses that are transferred from one province to another. I do not know whether the necessity of vaccination in that case is a regulation proposed by this government or whether it would be a regulation proposed by the provincial government. The particular case I have in mind, and which was brought to my attention, was that of a man in Macleod who sold a team of horses to be transported to British Columbia. The man who purchased the horses wanted them for his work on farms, particularly for the haying season. That necessitated the vaccination of the horse, but this man could find no veterinary who would do the job. There was not one in the district. He phoned to Cardston about thirty or forty miles away. The veterinary said that he could not do it then and would not be able to do it for two weeks and advised the man to get in touch with Lethbridge. He did so and the veterinary there said that he could not do it then. He was going out of town, or something, for two weeks. He then got in touch with the Lethbridge veterinary. He was there and said, yes, bring the horses over. It would cost