

which it was. Shortly afterwards he was chosen by the Quebec Government—the allies and friends of hon. gentlemen opposite—to take charge of the Quebec stock at the Chicago exhibition. He went there in charge of the Ayrshire stock of the province of Quebec and took 11 out of 14 prizes. He swept the boards with his stock. He was afterwards chosen to take charge of the Quebec model farm at Compton and managed it for a couple of years. He resigned that position to buy a farm in the neighbourhood of Compton, and was on it, when I asked him to take charge of the farm at Nappan. He is well known as an Ayrshire breeder and a capable stock man, and has been a judge and competitor at all the great fairs in the Dominion of Canada, and invariably has shown his stock in splendid order and carried off a very large portion of prizes.

Sir CHARLES HIBBERT TUPPER. Had the hon. Minister any recommendations for anybody in the province of Nova Scotia to take Mr. Forrest's place?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. I cannot say that I had.

Sir CHARLES HIBBERT TUPPER. Did the hon. gentleman make any inquiries?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. Yes, I consulted various members of the House and various members from the province of Nova Scotia, and they agreed with me that it would be well to send such a man as Mr. Robertson to take charge of the farm.

Sir CHARLES HIBBERT TUPPER. What was the objection to Mr. Blair, the assistant?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. He is not a farmer, but a horticulturist.

Sir CHARLES HIBBERT TUPPER. Is he not the assistant superintendent?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. No, he is a horticulturist.

Mr. MONTAGUE. What salary does the new man receive?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. The same salary, \$1,400.

Mr. MONTAGUE. I must say that when Mr. Forrest was appointed to the position of superintendent of the Nappan Farm, he came very highly recommended. If I caught the remarks of the hon. gentleman correctly, he stated that the condition of the farm—

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. Only the condition of the stock.

Mr. MONTAGUE. It rather created a prejudice in the minds of hon. gentlemen. Of course, the hon. gentleman will remember that Mr. Forrest was in charge of the farm for only a very short time, and he will see that Mr. Forrest could not be held re-

Mr. FISHER.

sponsible for the condition of an institution in connection with which he had been only a very short time indeed. All I can say is that he came to me very highly recommended indeed, as a very skilful farmer, and one in whom the people of Nova Scotia would have a great deal of confidence. I regret, under these circumstances, that the hon. gentleman felt it necessary to dismiss him.

Mr. TALBOT. I would ask the Minister of Agriculture whether, as his staff is now constituted at the Central Experimental Farm, the French-speaking people of the province of Quebec are able to derive much benefit from the lectures that are given throughout the country, as they would derive if some of the lecturers were fluent in the use of the French language. I am informed that in the other provinces of the Dominion, Prof. Saunders and other gentlemen of the Experimental Farm, have been in the habit of delivering lectures to the people. I am not aware that this work is being done in the province of Quebec among the French people, where, however, it would be of great utility. I would like to know if it is intended to take steps to remedy that evil.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. The hon. gentleman is misinformed in stating that this kind of work is not being carried on in the province of Quebec. As a matter of fact, Mr. J. L. McMurray has been nearly all this winter making trips in the province of Quebec and delivering lectures in various localities. He is a very practical man in connection with farm work, thoroughly understands it all, and has a gift for addressing public audiences which makes his lectures very acceptable and useful. Perhaps some hon. gentlemen in this House have heard him, certainly many of them have reported to me, in consequence of his going out at my request and under my instructions to visit their counties, that his lectures have given a great deal of satisfaction. I may also say that Mr. James Fletcher, the entomologist, is a good French scholar, and has delivered addresses in the French language at various places. There is an impression abroad that there are not many French-speaking employees on the farm. I have a list of Frenchmen on the farm, and I can assure the hon. gentleman that this impression is not a correct one. As a matter of fact, there are some five or six men connected with the central offices of the farm who are French by race and by language. There are in the barns and about the farm half a dozen more who are also French. I am now looking for an assistant chemist, and I have one or two applications, but I have decided that the new assistant must be a Frenchman. Under these circumstances, I can assure the hon. gentleman that the French language and the French people are fairly represented,