

amount in first-class bacon the abattoir may turn out. The whole matter, I think, tends in the right direction. It is not desired to disturb the trade any more than is necessary. The grader may be said to be rather a referee. That referee will represent the abattoirs and also the producers and both will abide by his decision. In addition the understanding is that, based upon this quality, the abattoirs will bid in order to play their part and thus incidentally prevent their doors being closed for the want of business, a condition that some of them are in to-day. The abattoirs will bid a premium on all selects, of ten per cent, I think it is. That is the understanding, but it will not be easy to work out the proportion. It may gradually become absorbed into the general price. At any rate, I have explained the object we have in view, and that is the intent of the contract.

Mr. McQUARRIE: I would like to impress upon the minister the hardships that will be suffered by exhibition associations if a reduction of even twenty-five per cent is made in the grants for this purpose. I believe in economy, and I suppose we must think about economizing, but it seems to me that this is just about the last place where we should start that principle. I think we should do everything possible to encourage agriculture, and it seems to me that one of the best ways to do so is to encourage the holding of these fairs. In my constituency we hold an exhibition under the auspices of the Royal Agricultural and Industrial Society, an exhibition that boasts of being the best in the West, and personally I think it is a very good show indeed. We have a splendid display of agricultural exhibits and of live stock; it is a very complete and interesting exhibition. Unfortunately, I believe the exhibition associations have counted on having the full grant this year. I believe they were told that before any reduction was made they would be notified and afforded the opportunity of being heard by the minister. They received no notice whatever that any reduction was to be made this year, and they have made up their prize lists, and based their expenditures, on the expectation of the full grant. Now, I submit to the minister, it is hardly fair that this reduction be made without notice. I would also suggest to him that before his policy in this regard is finally determined he give the fair managers the opportunity of making representations to him. I think they have asked for a conference, and I would suggest in all

[Mr. Motherwell.]

seriousness to the minister that he might very well consider the advisability of having this conference with the fair managers of the whole Dominion before he finally adopts his policy with regard to exhibition grants.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I think my hon. friend looks so good natured over it that he rather expects this small reduction.

Mr. McQUARRIE: No, not for this year.

Mr. SUTHERLAND: I would like to ask the minister whether there is to be any change in the vote for the National Live Stock Records. I believe there has been a vote of \$20,000 a year for quite a number of years back to assist the National Live Stock Records in carrying on their work. It is well known that the work of the records board has increased very much during the last few years, and the live stock associations of the Dominion find a good deal of difficulty in carrying on at the present time—in fact, some of them have been compelled to increase their registration fees as a result of the increased obligations that they have had to assume. I notice there are twenty-six of these record associations and I will hurriedly run over the list. They are:

Canadian Aberdeen Angus Association, Canadian Ayrshire Breeders' Association, Canadian Belgian Draft Horse Breeders' Ass'n, Canadian Brown Swiss Association, Clydesdale Horse Association of Canada, French Canadian Cattle Breeders' Ass'n, Canadian French Coach Breeders' Association, French Canadian Horse Breeders' Ass'n, North American Galloway Association, Canadian Goat Society, Canadian Guernsey Breeders' Association, Canadian Hackney Horse Society, Canadian Hereford Breeders' Association, Canadian Jersey Cattle Club, Canadian Kennel Club, Canadian Percheron Horse Breeders' Ass'n, Canadian Pony Society, Canadian Red Polled Association, Canadian Sheep Breeders' Association, Canadian Shire Horse Association, Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association, Canadian Silver Fox Breeders' Association, Canadian Standard Bred Horse Society, Canadian Suffolk Horse Society, Canadian Swine Breeders' Association, Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society.

I think the House will agree as to the importance of keeping the record of the pure-breds of all stock raised in this country. I believe that the outlook for the farmers of Canada depends more upon raising stock of a high standard than upon attempting to supply the demand for inferior animals, and I do not know of anything that will conduce more to the promotion of the interests of the live stock industry in the Dominion than assisting the live stock associations to carry on.