

*Supply—Agriculture*

**Mr. Knight:** The other use of that particular farm is one which should be mentioned. I should like to pay a tribute to the Department of Agriculture and to the management of that particular farm. This particular forestry farm, as the minister knows, is just a mile or two out of my city. It is on the north side of the railroad town of Sutherland, and thousands and thousands of people during the summer months find relief from the heat by going out there on Sunday afternoons and in the evenings after work. That particular farm is fulfilling a fine function in that regard. It is a farm which is particularly well kept. The lawns in particular are like a cushion and the flower beds have been beautifully kept during the last year or two. I suppose the present management has been the inspiration of it. They are now making a small attempt at an animal park. They have a few deer and pheasants and that sort of thing.

**Mr. Lennard:** And mosquitoes.

**Mr. Knight:** I should like to say to the hon. gentleman that probably he has more experience with mosquitoes than we have.

**Mr. Lennard:** I was out in Saskatchewan and I was nearly chewed up.

**Mr. Knight:** May I say to my hon. friend that there were more things than mosquitoes that were chewed up in Saskatoon during this past summer. In saying that, I am being just a little political. I shall get back to my story.

**Mr. Smith (Calgary West):** It may be political but it is not politic.

**Mr. Lennard:** It is not good politics.

**Mr. Knight:** This, sir, is higher education. To go back to this particular item, and I have a reason for mentioning it, the minister has said that there is a particular difficulty in growing trees in that area. I do not know what dust does to trees, but the only fault with that particular farm is that the trees and the flowers and the lawns are continually covered with a coating of dust. In dry weather, which is normal in our part of the country in the summer, with the thousands and thousands of cars which are travelling over the road and the avenue into that particular place during the summer, there is a constant cloud of white dust, which is a menace. During the last summer the town of Sutherland approached me, as the member of parliament for that district, and I was also approached by the council of the city of Saskatoon and asked to bring this dust menace to the attention of the proper govern-

[Mr. Gardiner.]

ment department. They asked that the road which goes through that part be hard-surfaced.

The matter was brought to a head by the fact that the provincial government had been persuaded to hard-surface the road through the town of Sutherland. The dust menace, as I have no doubt the minister knows, is particularly bad there because all the traffic travels down the main street—perhaps I should say the only business street in the town. The dust was constantly in people's eyes, in the stores and everywhere. The provincial government did hard-surface the road through the town. I do not remember whether the pavement goes farther than the railway tracks, but the idea was that while the machinery was there on the job perhaps the dominion government might have been persuaded to co-operate with the province and hard-surface this particular stretch of road leading to this beauty spot.

We know that in the middle of the summer the minister was busy, as were many of the rest of us—and probably engaged in the same sort of business. I was informed that in the absence of the minister nothing could be done about it, and that certainly there was no provision for such an item in the estimates. I tried the Minister of Public Works, with the same results. When I went there I was referred back to the Minister of Agriculture. I take this opportunity tonight to suggest to the minister that there might be some way in which the dominion could co-operate, as a result of which a good road might be built into that particularly beautiful spot, out of which so many people gain restful pleasure during the summer.

Item agreed to.

Experimental farms service—

14. Central experimental farm, \$1,330,560.

**Mr. Hatfield:** Why is there this increase in the expense in connection with carrying on the central experimental farm? About nine years ago the estimate for this farm was only about \$400,000. Why do we have all these extra men and this extra expense at the farm?

**Mr. Gardiner:** There has been a great deal of discussion in the house on the matter of increasing wages of persons employed at the farm, and increasing the salaries of scientific personnel associated with the farm. All of that has resulted in an increase as compared with some years ago. However, it will be noticed that, as compared with last year, there is this year in the item a reduction of \$85,281. So that in the estimates of those two years we have this year a reduction rather than an increase.