

Supply—Agriculture

during the last few years, particularly since the war, the quality of Canada's wheat has been depreciating, and the primary object of this great enterprise is to improve the quality of our wheat, partly through an exhibition, at which all competitors will be inspired to attempt to excel each other, and partly through papers and addresses on the various diseases to which the cereal world is subject, so the educational value of such a show will be very great.

Mr. KENNEDY: It seems to me that we are going to pay a big price for this show, and while the instructional value of the addresses and papers may amount to something it seems to me that \$100,000 or possibly \$200,000 spent in scientific work would go much further in providing a way to overcome diseases such as rust and smut. I have a great deal of doubt as to the value of this vote, but I do not intend to oppose it in the meantime. However, I would like to know what control may be exercised, as far as this house is concerned, with regard to the expenditure. Are we absolutely through when this money is expended, or will there be a report made to this department giving all the details?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: This department will be well represented on the various boards, and I happen to be the chairman. Among other things which will be taken up at the various conferences—because there will be some six or eight sections running concurrently in order that all the ground may be covered in a reasonable time—are soils, physics, chemistry, bacteriological cultural methods, weeds, experimental methods of seed production and registration, farm management, fertilizers, eradication or control of insect pests, agricultural machinery, harvesting, markets, grading, merchandising, storage and transportation requirements, and also milling and baking tests. It is a very comprehensive program indeed.

Mr. KENNEDY: Are there any of these questions on which we have not pretty full information at present?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I have never found an occasion of this nature, which brings together all the experts of the wheat growing world, which has not been of very great value indeed. It has been my privilege from time to time to attend a number of international conferences both in the United States and Canada, and I have obtained a great deal of

[Mr. Motherwell.]

very valuable information from them. I think it is generally conceded that we should use all the forces available to put our wheat once more in its old position.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): As an advertising project I think that this has merit; I think it will be a fine way of attracting the attention of the world to Canada and its possibilities, agricultural and otherwise. The educational work carried on by the Department of Agriculture has conveyed to those of us who are interested enough to study all the information which is known about this subject. Will a complete accounting be made of the expenditure under this vote?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Yes.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): That will be made to parliament?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Yes.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): It is more than a grant, then?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Yes. There will be a very close supervision kept of the expenditure because we are well represented upon the committee.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): A mere supervision of the expenditure is not enough; will the house be presented with a statement, properly audited?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Yes.

Mr. GARDINER: What progress is being made with regard to the prevention of tuberculosis in cattle?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: The matter of tuberculosis eradication was taken up by the committee on bovine research which met in Ottawa last winter. Very extensive experiments were reported, both by the authorities in Alberta and by the various subcommittees throughout Canada which are cooperating in this work. Nothing was brought forth which would indicate that any additional light has been thrown upon the virtues of any superior system other than the one we are trying out at the present time, the B.C.G. This vaccine has received a good deal of publicity and it is admitted that a certain amount of immunity is imparted to the young animals through inoculation, but that immunity is only of comparatively short duration and has not proven to be 100 per cent perfect. Further research work has been undertaken, not only here, but practically in all the research stations in the world, including that of the League of Nations, in an endeavour to find out the actual virtues of the B.C.G. vaccine.