

available. Again I would point out that 283, the number now given, is scarcely more than half the number which was provided each year from 1930 until 1936. We are told in the reports that the bull loaning policy is very popular and that there is a great increase of applications each year; yet we find the department providing only half the number to maintain a policy which they admit is very popular. I would suggest to the minister, if I can get his attention—

Mr. GARDINER: Yes; I am just looking up what the hon. member has been speaking of.

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin-Simcoe): —that his department should reconsider their administration of this important policy. As a live stock breeder I regard it as most important that assistance should be given, either by the bull loaning policy or by reinstatement of the premium policy. It is fundamental and basic to the agriculture industry, especially the live stock industry. If we are to meet the market demands which have been spoken about in this chamber we must do it by producing the highest class products, and it seems to me to be a very retrograde step that, while the premium policies are discontinued, bull loaning policies, admitted to be popular and leading to increased demands for such assistance, are to be carried on to only half the extent which obtained in more difficult years. I should like the minister to explain as well what progress has been made by his department with reference to the record of performance clubs for pure bred cattle, and also the advanced registry for dairy sires.

Mr. GARDINER: On the question of the numbers that have been supplied from year to year, I wish to give the following figures:—

Year	Number	Average cost
1933..	348	\$121
1934..	403	129
1935..	394	132
1936..	299	133
1937..	283	143

The figures indicate that, while there has been some variation, it is not as great as has just been intimated. The total number in 1933 was 348, and last year, 283.

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin-Simcoe): If I have been unfair in stating that it was nearer 500, I wish to explain that I took my figures from the minister's report for the year ended March 31, 1937, where it states that:

The continued popularity of the bull loaning policy is apparent from the fact that each year applications for assistance are greatly in excess of the number of suitable bulls available for purchase by the department.

[Mr. W. E. Rowe.]

Further it states that the purchase of some 2,800 bulls of approved type and quality has been made since November, 1930.

Mr. GARDINER: Yes. If you go back to 1930 and follow it right through from that year those total figures would be correct. I note that the hon. member has apparently averaged the figures from the beginning. But in establishing a policy of that kind you would have to put out more bulls per year, and many of the bulls the hon. member has spoken of, that is of the 2,800, are still in service. After the policy has been in operation a few years and these bulls have been established it is not necessary to change them all year by year, or even to purchase as many as you would purchase in the earlier years. The demands are not all being met in any of these services. It would require a great deal more money than I have been able to get through the house for these services if we were to try to provide for all requirements in connection with every service.

Mr. PERLEY: Would the minister give us the number of applications from Saskatchewan in 1935, 1936 and 1937, and how many bulls were supplied?

Mr. GARDINER: The number placed in Saskatchewan last year was 65, in Manitoba, 61, and in Alberta, 78. That is a year ago.

Mr. PERLEY: Will the minister give us the other years?

Mr. GARDINER: In 1936 in Saskatchewan, 70; in 1935, 101; in 1934, 123; in 1933, 97.

Mr. HAYHURST: Does that apply to all breeds? That is all the breeds are together?

Mr. GARDINER: Yes, that is the total for all breeds.

Mr. PERLEY: Following out a policy of that kind will certainly decrease the production in Saskatchewan. Only about half as many were supplied last year as in 1935.

Mr. GARDINER: 1934.

Mr. PERLEY: Just half what there were in 1934. I should like to point out another thing. The figures the minister gave us with respect to the comparison between 1936 and 1937 of the number of cattle and the number of cows give a percentage reduction in 1937 in cattle, of 29.7 per cent, and in cows, of 15.6 per cent. There was a reduction in cattle of 406,000 and in milch cows of 95,000. The reduction in milch cows amounted to about twenty-five per cent of the total reduction in milch cows and cattle.