

Mr. GARDINER: It is largely composed of persons associated with the department or with agricultural colleges and institutions of that type. The executive committee consists of: H. Barton, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Ottawa, chairman; E. S. Archibald, Director, Experimental Farms Service; A. M. Shaw, Director, Marketing Services; J. M. Swaine, Director, Science Service; G. I. Christie, President, Ontario Agricultural College; W. R. Reek, Deputy Minister, Ontario Department of Agriculture; L. P. Roy, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Quebec; Robert Newton, Director, Division of Biology and Agriculture, National Research Council; T. C. McQuat, General Agricultural Agent, Canadian Pacific Railway Company; H. L. Trueman, Assistant to Director, Science Service.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): Are they all selected by the minister?

Mr. HATFIELD: Are they paid salaries or expenses?

Mr. GARDINER: There are no salaries for this work but there are expenses. The secretarial work is paid for.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): How often did they meet last year?

Mr. GARDINER: The committee meets usually once a year, but sometimes twice.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): The temporary assistance I presume is for secretarial work?

Mr. GARDINER: Yes.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): There is a reduction of \$2,000 in travelling expenses for the advisory committee. Is a meeting not contemplated this year?

Mr. GARDINER: The amount provided for travelling expenses is not only for the advisory committee but for subcommittees as well which meet at different places more often. We shall have to cut down on some of those meetings, but the general meeting will be held.

Item agreed to.

Administration service.

4. Contributions to empire bureaux, \$33,823.34.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): This seems to be a standard item. Are we continuing annual grants to these bureaux notwithstanding the war?

Mr. GARDINER: I do not think there will be any difficulty about the empire bureaux functioning, but there may be some difficulty about the international institute of agriculture.

Mr. SENN: That meets at Rome?

[Mr. Perley.]

Mr. GARDINER: Yes. If there is any difficulty about that one functioning, the money will not be paid, but I do not think we should remove the amount from the estimates. When the estimates were made up, there was not the same reason for discontinuing the item as now.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): I understand what is meant by entomology, but what is meant by mycology?

Mr. GARDINER: It is the systematic study of plant diseases, more particularly fungi.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury) Perhaps this is not the proper item on which to bring this matter up, but the department has built a small laboratory at Fredericton. It was built under contract and is nearing completion. I was informed by the contractor when I was home that unless a little more money is spent on it and at least a roof put on the building, there will be a loss. I would hope that the minister would have that building completed. I think it is needed, and if ever the building was needed it should be gone on with now because it will take only a little more money to complete the whole thing. I hope it may be done.

Mr. GARDINER: If the leader of the opposition would permit me to defer the explanation until we get to the other item, Doctor Swaine will be here.

Item agreed to.

Administration service.

5. International Institute of Agriculture, \$12,000.

Mr. NICHOLSON: Would the minister tell the committee the nature of the services performed by the international institute?

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): That is the Rome conference.

Mr. GARDINER: It is largely an international statistical service, and supplies statistics which we would find it very difficult to secure through our own staffs. The institute is an international organization and a clearing house to which different countries send statistics. We simply subscribe to it a certain amount to help pay the costs, and we are entitled to all information which is sent out.

Mr. NICHOLSON: What kind of statistics?

Mr. GARDINER: Having to do with agriculture; for example, the amount of grain that is grown in different countries and areas, statistics regarding live stock, the treatment of diseases, and that sort of thing.