

that recommendation is this \$150,000 which is not a grant, as my hon. friend stated, but which is desired in order to construct a government seed warehouse for cleaning and storing seed grain, so that when large volumes of seed which have been held by farmers who cannot afford to hold it over to spring is being sold, it may be retained by these seed associations in the accommodation we will supply. That has been an important question in the west for fifteen years. The management of the old cooperative elevator at Regina was requested many times to adopt a policy of this kind but they thought they should confine themselves to commercial grain only, and so far as I know this is the first step to be taken in the way of a general policy of this nature. We have taken care of the requirements of eastern Canada by the arrangement with the small plants to which I have referred.

Mr. ADSHEAD: I suppose the title to this building will always remain in the crown?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Yes, and the title to the site as well.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: Is the business of this warehouse limited to registered or approved seeds?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: As far as Saskatchewan is concerned it is limited to registered and certified seeds, but conditions may be different in the other two provinces, and I am told that they may require high class commercial seeds to be handled as well. We will vary these services to suit the requirements of the different provinces.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: Is it the idea that this will be the one distributing centre for the three provinces?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: No, we are prepared to render the same assistance to the other two provinces as soon as they are prepared to make use of this service. Then I would like to point out to my hon. friend from Dufferin-Simcoe that in a return made this year to the hon. member for Maple Creek, in which he asked by what amount the revenue obtained from the administration of the Grain Act exceeded the expenditure in each year, or in other words how much the amount collected in fees exceeded the amount required to administer the act, the answer made by the Department of Trade and Commerce was as follows:

1925-26. . . . .	\$1,083,679
1926-27. . . . .	573,287
1927-28. . . . .	625,043
1928-29. . . . .	672,180

That makes a total of over \$2,700,000 collected in fees for weighing and grading in excess of what it cost to administer the act. Having regard to the fact that this large amount of money was levied on the farmers and went into the general revenue, surely it is not too much to spend \$150,000 and then charge them interest on their own money. So the committee will see that this is not a proposition which will do any harm; we are simply using part of these revenues to put up a government plant which will be retained in the name of the crown so that supervision may be exercised by whoever occupies the position of Minister of Agriculture in years to come, in order to see that the proper kind of grain is used in these seed houses, and that spurious seeds are not taken in and good seeds contaminated, in order to protect the seed of the whole country from contamination. It is a well recognized fact that Canada's wheat is gradually deteriorating in the markets of the world, and in view of that fact some such step as this is imperative.

Mr. CHAPLIN: I do not know whether the minister is trying to block his own estimates, but I should like to ask him if any part of this building has been constructed as yet?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: No.

Mr. CHAPLIN: Are the plans prepared?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Yes.

Mr. CHAPLIN: And the ground purchased?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: The ground was transferred to the government.

Mr. CHAPLIN: The minister says, "Look at us; see what we have done. We have collected over \$2,000,000 of a surplus under the Grain Act and we are going to spend some of it in this way." By looking at the minister's estimates it will be seen that he is spending it all right; he is a wonderful spender. He says, "Oh, I propose to spend only \$150,000 on this enterprise," but I want to point out to the minister that every province in Canada is looking after its own seed grain as far as the cleaning is concerned. Now the minister proposes to go into an enterprise which will compete with private firms in that line.

Mr. DONNELLY: Does the federal government not pay to the province of Ontario a certain amount for the seed houses in this province?