do would be to resign his seat before going under the pay of the Govern-ment. But they come in here and

ecutive Government of the country. is deliberately repealed; and not

only that, Mr. Chairman, but the very

three men who to-day occupy the po-

sition on that Board were here and

voted for that very repeal-practical-

ly voting themselves a salary of \$1,-

800 a year. There is nothing in the

history of Messrs. Devereaux, Dow-

ney or Seymour that would pick them

out in the country as expert agriculturists. They are three very good

safeguard of the Legislature and country should be set at nought ir

rder to provide them with salaries

nd permanent positions is, I con-

of course, Mr. Chairman, is a matter

of constitutional rights. While it does not bear directly on the policy

of the Government it shows by com-parison and by analogy what the whole drift of the policy of the Gov-

ernment in this respect amounts to

The policy of the Government, sir

neither in itself nor in its tendency



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dies and Children. our opportunity to

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In the Assemby Criticising the **Government's Agricultural** Policy.

MR. KENT—Mr. Chairman, I would like to speak on the sbuject of the present resolutions and the amendment that has been proposed by the Rt. Hon. Leader of the Opposition. I said the other day, in speaking before this Committee, that the Department of Agriculture and Mines had under its control three departments through which, if there is to be any developwhich, if there is to be any develop-ment of our inland resources, such to Mr. Gigault, who instituted the development must come. You have work, who brought forward the quesunder the control of that department, agriculture, the cultivation of the thought and study presented a report soil, and the other industries allied of the greatest value to this House. to it; you have also the development I say again all honour to the govern-of the mineral resources of the ment and all honor especially to the country; and you have also the pro-tection and the development of its forest resources. These are the three great natural resources, on land, of the country—in fact, I might say, the Canada, he met with but a lukewarm tal station had got a fair show, if the country—in fact, I might say; the three great natural resources of the present century—and upon the proper management, care and development of them will depend to a large extent, if not entirely, the future that this country has before it. We are dealing this evaning with one of these departments, with the department of agriculture, which is the oldest of known all over Canada, and I might hem all and the most important, be- say all over the agricultural world t is one of these subjects which come | Experimental Farms for Canada, and home to every man in every depart-ment of life. Consequently it re-work out and establish an organizaquires that greater care and attention tion of experimental farms and stademanding the attention of the Department. I am sorry to say, Mr. Chairman, that the policy of the matter in Canada. To-day the work of our experimental farms is a morn of the matter in Canada. charman, that the policy of the present Government is not one that would recommend itself to a person who desires to see a future for the agricultural interests of this country. If we have a superson to the foresight, the skill, the energy and study of Professor Saunders. Our present organization is on exactly the same lines although someountry, the lines which ought to be followed are those which were laid down in the Experimental Farm Act of 1908. This is the departure from which dates the improvement of agwhich dates the improvement of agriculture in every country. Until the nodel farms were brought into pracon from century to century, from age had not expanded, it had not de-eloped. The different products

Now, from that date begins the present progress and development that has taken place in the Dominion of Canada in the matter of agricul-ture, and I submit, Mr. Chairman, that when the Experimental Farms edapted to different countries and dif-ferent soils had not been properly lature we were turning the first sod understood, and most of the countries were suffering from retrogression in this matter, which with the below in a policy which would have had results equally satisfactory to these in a policy which would have had results equally satisfactory to those produced in Canada, had it been properly carried out. We had everytarms had to be removed. I was reading the other day a speech by the Hon. Sydney Fisher, the Minister of Agriculture of the carrying out of this policy. Hon. Sydney Fisher, the Minister of Agriculture in the Dominion of Canada. He is Minister of Agriculture and Mines in the present Liberal Administration. He referred back to the ministration. He referred back to the for improving and encouraging agriculture had been made in Canada. At that time the Conservative Government was in power there, and the Hon. Mr. Carling was the Minister of Agriculture of that day. He had a committee appointed, and the result of the deliberations of that committee was that the establishment of a Model. Farm was recommended Mr. Fisher in his speech the other day, referring to this departure, said: "In 1885, Mr. Gigault, the member for Rouville, an earnest and studious man, who appreciated the interests of the people whom he represented, moved for a committee to consider the agricultural industry of Canada. The agricultural industry of Canada. The committee sat—I had the honor of being a member of it myself—and for a long time we did a great deal of hard work in obtaining information. prominently identified with this work. We were in a better position in that fact that in 1885 the first departure hard work in obtaining information as to what other countries were doing for agriculture. The report of thrown away. The expenditure last of the industries of the country.

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nent nature to the agricultural interests of the country. It will for a few years keep followers of the Govern-WEDNESDAY, March 8. | that committee recommended the eswith the Government because they tribution of these large sums of money enable the Government to hand out, but as to being of any perma-nent advantage to the agricultural interests of the Colony I do not think that even a majority of hon, members opposite are in their hearts convinced that any permanent good will come from the policy. We are told, Mr. Chairman, by the Minister of Agriculture and Mines that it is impossible to carry out the Experimental Farms Act of 1908. Wel should like to have some better authority for that statement than that of the Minister, for, as I have pointed out before, the experience of every other country in the world has been in direct opposition to the statement of the Minister, and if the experimenothers were deterred from coming ir o help carry on a work of such benefit—the experimental farm would las Professor Saunders, Director o have produced good results. It stands to reason, Mr. Chairman. I am not arming, but I have read from time to time matter pertaining to farming and I have spoken to farmers. It stands to reason that the free distribution of seeds, etc., is a very small way and may be a very harm ful way of dealing with agriculture Even in the report which the Minis ter of Agriculture has tabled to-day you will see in going through the remarks of Professors McPhail and Robertson there are two sides to ev ery improvement in seed growing There is the seed itself, and the ground in which the seed is set. Now the Government are simply doling out the seed without any consideration of the soil. In this respective Professors McPhail and Robertsonare most pointed in every instance

in the form of leaflets is of no as the soil and the selection of the seed

more as expository farms, where the and see illustrated the matters which they are dealing with day by day on referred also, Mr. Chairman, to th indemnity which was given to mem bers of this House for taking thei places upon the Agricultural Board, which was established by the Act of last year, at a salary of \$1,800 a year. This matter was one which I think is a very bad precedent, and one which is subversive of all ideas that are entertained in all English speaking countries.

to keep the two together, but indiscriminate distribution of seed is

narmful unless it is accompanied it

some instructions, and in this respec

the literature that has been dealt ou

scientific blending 'together of seed

These are absolutely essential to the improvement of agriculture. In this

have these experimental stations and

year amounted to \$50,000. There was a vote of \$20,000 and an overdraft so that vote of nearly \$20,000. These amounts are being largely squandered. The composition of the Board itself. Mr. Chairman, is, I think, one that throws very little credit on the Government. We have had three hembers of this House appointed as members of this House appointed as members of this House appointed as members of this House appointed to \$1,800 a year. The Legislative Disabilities and three would be covered up in any clause inserted by reference only in a bill. If it was the intention to vious these three members to take a seat on that Board. Now if there was sociated Mail Dealers.

We have had three disabilities a voice of \$20,000 and an overdraft so the members would be covered up in any clause inserted by reference only in a bill. If it was the intention to vious these three members to take a seat on that Board. Now if there was sociated Mail Dealers.

We have a specially amended to allow these three members to take a seat on that Board. Now if there was sociated Mail Dealers.

We have a specially amended to allow these three members would naturally be.

Adams, Mrs. John, Downs, Mr., Pennywell Road Dawe, Miss W. S.

Pennywell Road Dawe, Miss W. S.

Adams, Mrs. John, Downs, Mr., Lewessurier, Mrs. Alex., Circular Road Ross, Mrs. M. Torring St. these three members to take a seat on that Board. Now, if there was anything in the past history of these gentlemen which picked them out of the whole country as being of exceptional merit, or specially experit through training, experience and education in a pattern of a resolutions.

cation in matters of agriculture, the Government might have some show, of justification for their action; but even then, Mr. Chairman, I think that, if the Government were desirout to members of the House to violate one of the tundamental principle. ous of getting a person of that chardous of the fundamental principles of the government. If the house, the proper thing for him to do would be to resign his seat before going under the pay of the Government. But they come in here and the Legislative Disabilities Act the inference sections which were estimated to provide places on this Board for members of this House, they should have said so in the Act and not repealed by inference sections which were estimated. acter, who occupied a seat in this House, the proper thing for him to the Legislative Disabilities Act, the only protection that the people of this country have against legislators being in the permament pay of the Eximal so in the sections which were entirely irrelevant to the bill before the House. On the question of providing in the permament pay of the Eximal so in the sections which were entirely irrelevant to the bill before the country have against legislators being in the permament pay of the Eximal so in the sections which were entirely interested by interesting the sections which were entirely interested by the sections which were entirely interested by interested by the sections which were entirely interested by the sections which were entirely interested by the sections which were entirely interested by the section in the section interested by the section in the section precedent where this House did so, but in that case the names of the parties and the reasons were given expressly by the Act. That was under the Winter-Morine Government In this case the same procedure ought to have been followed. We are told that the Act to establish the experimental station can not be carried out. That is a mere statement without proof or any attempt to show in what direction or why it cannot be men, but to rate them as three ex-pert agriculturists and ask that this ried out with great benefit to the agricultural interests. If any member of this House will take up that Aci and go through it, he cannot but be mpressed by the fact that it embodes a scheme for the betterment of agiculture similar to that which has been followed in other countries. 1 ave the Act here before me. The rst section provides for the estabishment of an experimental station nd model farm. That was in course f accomplish ent at the time that his destructive policy of the Gov-

ernment was inaugurated. And the objects for which that station was o have been inaugurated are funda-Chatman, Miss Sarah, nental and essential to proper agricultural development. The second the model farm was intended to carry out. The objects are, amongst others, to determine the adaptability of crops, grain, grasses and root crops sirable object, and one which it is very easy to accomplish with a proper man in charge, and at the farm or station as it was intended to be established, and as a matter of fact i would have easily accomplished that bliect. The experience of the men who had charge has been referred to; every one in this House knows the knowledge and experience of Professor Zavitz. Another object was to discover the method of producing the best results from the crops

on the physiology of plants and anithose who came here to inaugurate subject, and the remedies which are it had been treated with anything suitable to them. This has been done successfully in other countries, and the equipment necessary to accom-plish this could very easily be obtain-Brenton, George, Breggar, Capt. A., ed for a mere proportion of the amount now to be allocated, I should on agriculture. The amount now squandered on agriculture, if applied Pike, Alfred, for the purpose of carrying out the objects of this Act, would have produced in the course of a very few years, a permanent and lasting farming class in this country. After all, Mr. Chairman, the real object and purpose of the development of agri-culture is to equip Newfoundland with a class of people who are dis-tinctly farmers from one end of the year to the other, devoting themselves to farming exclusively. And unless

were found to succeed. It was to

you do that, unless you establish these people in the great fertile lands of (Continued on 7th page.)

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