

the people see a statement such as I have read coming from Ottawa they have no appreciation of the Dominion government's share in the matter. I think the minister would be acting for the good of his department were he to emphasize to a greater extent the very valuable work Mr. Criddle has been doing in the province of Manitoba.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Bury): Shall the item carry?

Mr. McINTOSH: No. There are two more points I should like to clear up before leaving this item. I refer, first, to the intended illustration station at Hafford. The minister said it was practically in the same position as it was a year or so ago. May I ask him what his intentions are in regard to that station? I should like to say the minister very kindly investigated the possibility of an investigation station at Hafford, or had his department do so, and after investigation gave his word that there would be an illustration station at that point. When the minister has given his word to that effect I know it will be kept. I am asking him, however, if he has any further definite information on the point so that the Hafford district will know its position in that connection without delay.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): The illustration station has already been established for this year on the farm of Mr. Hudek.

Mr. McINTOSH: Before the election of 1930, if I remember correctly, and my memory is fairly good, the previous government investigated the area westward from Meadow Lake towards the Alberta boundary line, and the area of country northwest of North Battleford, with a view to establishing an illustration station that would help farmers farm more successfully. There is an illustration station at Spruce Lake and one at Meadow Lake. West of Meadow Lake and north of Spruce Lake and North Battleford, there is an immense area of country, new productive agricultural land the importance of which, I believe, I called to the attention of the minister since his government took office. I am of the opinion he said he would investigate matters some time in the future. I am not sure whether any investigation has taken place or not, but I should like to know to-night whether the government has any intention of looking into that new area with a view to the establishment of an illustration station there in the near future.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): Is Piapot in that district?

Mr. McINTOSH: No; I think the minister knows the area in question.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): I know the district. There is another illustration station somewhere in that northwest area, and I was wondering if that was the one. However, I shall look into the matter and let the hon. member know.

Mr. HANSON (Skeena): I was not satisfied with the answer I received about the experimental farm in north British Columbia. Are there any experimental plots along the Canadian National railway between Yellowhead pass and Prince Rupert? If so, where are they?

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): Is the hon. member referring to an experimental farm or an illustration station?

Mr. HANSON (Skeena): Illustration stations. It would be in the Cariboo and Skeena electoral ridings.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): The following illustration stations are on the main line; McBride, Prince George—there are two in the vicinity of Prince George—Telkwa and Vanderhoof.

Mr. HANSON (Skeena): I notice in Hansard for 1928 at page 575 Mr. Motherwell who was then Minister of Agriculture made a strong plea that something should be done in that part of the country. Also at page 577 Mr. Tolmie strongly advocated that something be done in that territory, which covers several thousand square miles. I may say that lately they have built at least one country elevator in there, and if given a little encouragement it will be a great country for home builders, which after all is what we are trying to induce people to become. I strongly urge the minister to give the matter his personal consideration. I know he has not been out there himself, but both his predecessors have been there and looked into it and I hope the present minister will do the same.

Mr. LUCAS: Some time ago information was given that a new grass was introduced that gives special promise for certain sections of western Canada, I think it was called crested wheat grass. Can the minister say what progress has been made with that, and if it is fulfilling its promise?

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): The results obtained from the grass known as crested wheat grass are very satisfactory. Pure line strains have been developed, and every possible means is being employed to propagate them and in-