

*Supply—Agriculture*

is something which I do not want to see and which Canadian agriculture cannot afford at the present. Therefore I hope the minister will say that he has considered the matter and is prepared to do something in this field.

**Mr. Hays:** May I just point out that we are considering supplementary estimates, and during the main estimates we will have quite a bit to say about our exhibition policies.

Item agreed to.

95e—Livestock division—Grants to agricultural organizations as detailed in the estimates, \$25,000.

**Mr. Bigg:** Mr. Chairman, I want to make a brief comment with regard to the contribution to the 4-H clubs, which I think is a very worthy one. In fact, I am surprised at such a small amount, and I presume that this item, like the other estimates, will be thoroughly discussed later. These 4-H clubs play an extremely important part in the encouragement of our young people to enter agriculture, and I hope they will not be lacking funds in this regard.

Item agreed to.

120e—Plant protection division—To extend the purposes of vote 120 of the main estimates for 1963-64 to include compensation for hydrangeas destroyed pursuant to the Destructive Insect and Pest Act, \$14,000.

**Mr. McCutcheon:** Mr. Chairman, I am a little concerned about this item, which includes compensation for hydrangeas which have been destroyed. I am not a horticulturist; my wife does the flower growing at our place, but I am wondering if the minister could explain the item.

**Mr. Hays:** The problem here is the incidence of nematode, which is a disease which grows on tubers like potatoes and so on. This was being carried. We import a great deal of our hydrangeas from Belgium and such places and those that were coming with dirt were not allowed in because of fear that they might be bringing in nematode and hurting the potato fields of New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and so on.

Item agreed to.

165e. Agriculture Rehabilitation and Development Act—administration, operation and maintenance, \$10,000.

**Mr. Peters:** Mr. Chairman, quite a number of questions have been asked in this field and I am particularly interested in obtaining from the minister a breakdown of what are the projects he has O.K.'d in the province of Ontario so that I may see what they are and how they fit into the program.

**Mr. Hays:** This particular amount has to do with travel. I am sure the minister in charge will be very glad to deal with all the

[Mr. Peters.]

expenditures on the main estimates, but this particular amount is for travel alone.

**Mr. Peters:** What travel and removal expenses are involved? What did these people do?

**Mr. Hays:** Perhaps I can explain it in this way. In the first instance these ARDA programs are investigated by the federal government and after that has taken place our officials get together with the province and decide on the sharing of the program as between the province and the federal government. As I indicated, since the first of May we have had a great deal of this activity and there was simply not enough money in the original estimates to take care of all the travel involved with regard to all the ARDA projects across Canada.

**Mr. Peters:** The minister mentioned before that he had eight or ten people in this department. I presume this amount is not just for their travelling expenses. Do we pay the travel expenses of the provincial government officials who are involved in matters concerning ARDA?

**Mr. Hays:** I would not want to mislead the hon. member. It is my understanding that we only pay the federal expenses but I remember that in May of last year shortly after I became minister we sent people to Newfoundland. We also did a lot of work in British Columbia and Saskatchewan and these men were on the move all the time investigating something like 136 different applications, with the result that we just ran out of money for travelling expenses.

Item agreed to.

171e. Payment of the balance of contributions to Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan for expenses incurred in respect of crop insurance in the amounts that would otherwise have been paid to those provinces if the agreements entered into by Canada pursuant to the Crop Insurance Act on the 31st day of May, 1962 with Prince Edward Island and on the 1st day of June, 1962 with Saskatchewan had been entered into on the 18th day of July, 1959, \$9,342.

[Translation]

**Mr. Pigeon:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister if he has communicated with the authorities of the province of Quebec with a view to entering into an agreement, under the Crop Insurance Act, whereby this act would apply in the province of Quebec?

Farmers in general, and more particularly those engaged in the production of special crops, such as the tobacco growers, wish to be protected. I think the Quebec government should definitely take a stand in this regard, especially in order to ensure the protection of farmers engaged in the production of special crops.