

is thoroughly understood and we do not propose to make any change in that at all.

Mr. HACKETT. After having had a fair share of chickens and cheese I wish to go back to apples again. I would like to ask the hon. minister if he has arranged for the appointment of a man to do grafting and pruning in Prince Edward Island, and to assist the orchardist there? I understand that a gentleman down there, Mr. D. A. Sharp, has applied for this position. The hon. minister will remember that a few years ago he sent a man of the name of Kinsman from Nova Scotia to Prince Edward Island who was totally unfit to carry on this work and made a failure of it. I understand that there is a largely signed petition in the department of the hon. minister asking that Mr. Sharp be appointed to do the work of pruning and grafting. Mr. Sharp is a Liberal, a personal friend of mine, though a strong political opponent, but he has been in the nursery business for a long number of years, and he is thoroughly conversant with the cultivation of fruit trees. In view of the fact that the hon. minister has a memorial in his hands signed by a large proportion of the people engaged in that industry in Prince Edward Island, I hope he will pay some attention to it. We do not want to have a repetition of Kinsman coming over there from Nova Scotia. Mr. Sharp is a nurseryman who has been selling his trees to the farmers of Prince Edward Island for a long number of years. I think he represents a nursery situated somewhere in the vicinity of Sussex, and he deals in trees that are suitable for Prince Edward Island. He has taken a deep interest in the cultivation of these trees. He goes around as far as he possibly can, being a man who is dependent for his living on the work he is doing, assisting the parties to whom he has sold trees in the cultivation of them. But he cannot give his whole time and attention to that without some compensation from the government and I would, therefore, as far as I can in this parliament, make known the capabilities of Mr. Sharpe and his thorough knowledge of and acquaintance with orchard work in Prince Edward Island. I would like to ask the hon. minister, having this memorial signed by a large number of the people of Prince Edward Island, that he would be good enough to pay some attention to it.

Mr. FOWLER. I would like to ask the hon. minister what his practice is in respect to giving bonuses to storehouses where butter is kept in cold storage by creamery companies, on what principle he gives these bonuses and what the initial value of the buildings is to which these bonuses are given?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. The buildings in connection with the creameries which earn these bonuses have to be constructed according to specifications and

plans which are supplied by the department, which have been published for years, which have been explained before the committee and drawings of which were put before the country in bulletins three or four years ago. The bonus as given is \$50 for the first year and \$25 for two succeeding years on the condition that the buildings themselves are properly constructed, and that the temperature is kept at the right point during the hot weather. We require first of all that an inspector shall visit the creamery and see whether the building is all right, and if it is we get a report from the butter maker there who fills up the form which is sent by the department. When that is done we pay the bonus.

Mr. FOWLER. Then application is made for this bonus?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. Yes. Made by the creameries and then we supply all the information necessary as to construction and forms for making reports upon.

Mr. TAYLOR. Who inspects these buildings?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. The officers of the department.

Mr. TAYLOR. In every case?

Mr. FOWLER. What is the average cost of these buildings?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. That would depend on whether they are built inside of an existing creamery or outside. It costs about \$150, Professor Robertson says, to fit up the inside of a building, but when an additional building has to be built it will probably cost \$250 or \$300. The government gives \$100 in the course of three years, \$50 the first year and \$25 for two succeeding years.

Mr. BLAIN. How many creameries have earned that bonus?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. About 500—not the full bonus; some of them are still earning their bonuses, but about 500 have put in the cold storage chambers. Some of them will come on next year or the year after.

Mr. BLAIN. How many of them have earned the full \$100?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. About 330, Professor Robertson says, have earned the full bonus.

Mr. BLAIN. I notice in this pamphlet, containing figures which have come from the department, the number is placed at 317 that have earned the full \$100 up to 1900.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. That will be about it.

Mr. BLAIN. How many does the hon. minister say now have earned the full \$100?