

SUPPLY

The house in committee of supply, Mr. Johnston in the chair.

At one o'clock the committee took recess.

The committee resumed at three o'clock.
Progress reported.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR
GENERAL'S SECRETARY

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the house that I have received the following message:

Ottawa, June 14, 1929.

Sir:

I have the honour to inform you that His Excellency the Governor General will proceed to the Senate chamber to-day at 5 p.m., for the purpose of proroguing the present session of parliament.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. C. Mieville,

Secretary to the Governor General.

SUPPLY

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The house in committee of supply, Mr. Johnston in the chair.

Health of animals, administration of the Animal Contagious Diseases Act and Meat and Canned Foods Act, and necessary buildings, \$2,450,000.

Mr. KENNEDY: I stated that I wanted a little information with regard to item 363, which provides a grant of \$100,000 to the executive committee of the World's Grain Congress. I would like the minister to make a short statement with regard to this item, and I particularly want to know whether this \$100,000 is the full amount the Dominion government will contribute, and also whether or not a statement will be rendered showing the details of the expenditure, the salaries and so on, or whether this is a straight grant.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I asked my deputy to prepare a short statement giving a synopsis of the situation, and this synopsis is before me now. This grain show and congress to be held in Regina in 1932 is to be international in character, and the governments of all possible competing countries are being communicated with. The show is to be held on the Regina exhibition grounds, and the exhibition board there is planning to erect quite extensive buildings to accommodate the

show. The manager of that exhibition is very closely identified with the preparations, as are also the president and directors, who are named in a little pamphlet which is before me; I can give the names if desired. The different ministers of agriculture throughout Canada are included also.

Contributions toward prize money are being sought from the Dominion government and from many companies and associations interested in one way or another in grain; the railway companies might be particularly mentioned in this connection. It is anticipated that very generous prizes will be offered for wheat of different varieties and the coarse grains as well as for grass and clover seed. A tentative prize list has been worked out and much interest is being displayed in the matter by governments and by farmers, particularly those on the prairies.

I may say that this movement was started by a number of leading farmers and others in the province of Saskatchewan with the intention of having it under provincial auspices. After they had worked along those lines for a year or so they came to the conclusion that diplomatic connections with other countries would not be very easily obtained through provincial sources, so a large deputation came to Ottawa and asked that the Dominion government take it over. My department now has charge of the affair, as we had charge of the World's Poultry Congress two years ago. All the preliminaries have been engaged in and in Toronto last November a large meeting was held of all those interested in this movement for the purpose of arranging a tentative prize list. Those interested in this matter include all ministers of agriculture and prominent men interested in the agricultural life of the country; there are subcommittees, finance committees and all the other requisites in connection with a large enterprise of this nature.

Replying to the second part of my hon. friend's question as to whether any further assistance will be sought, I imagine that it will, according to this memorandum. One of the purposes for which this vote is asked is that the officers may go about the country from place to place in order to canvass for subscriptions for this prize list, and that will cost quite a bit of money. Among others I anticipate that all governments will be given an opportunity to contribute. I might also point out that while some are disposed to make the prize list and the exhibition proper the great feature of the show, that is not in the minds of those who are initiating this great movement. They have recognized that