

*Mr. Speaker—Ruling*

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Yes, in rented buildings, and while we have done good work there, we have been hampered considerably by not having complete control over the buildings. We have some accommodation in Winnipeg, but this disease is too important to be dealt with in buildings in which we have to get the accommodation from other people; the work has to be continued.

Mr. LUCAS: It occurred to me that there has been a good deal of overlapping in very much of this work. If it could be carried on in connection with our universities attended by a great many students, then anyone who is interested in it could see it carried on and afterwards take that knowledge out into the country with him. I think the universities are very well equipped with all the facilities for carrying on such work as this. Could not these investigations be carried on in conjunction with the universities, and thus obviate the necessity of having a separate building?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: As, I think, my hon. friend knows there are about forty different varieties of rust, and we have first to discover a plant that can resist the rust. Then, after we have discovered that kind of wheat plant we have got to breed into it three or four important qualities—early maturity, quality, and prolificness. That is a tremendous amount of experimentation and it may take twenty-five years, with the facilities we have, to arrive at definite results. We do not know how far we shall get with the new facilities, but we do know that we shall get better results. It is worth while striving to get results because there is a loss of nearly \$100,000,000 annually from cereal diseases of one kind and another.

Mr. LUCAS: Is it the intention of the minister to hold a conference of the several provincial bodies that are now doing certain work along this line?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Oh, yes, all the provincial bodies including the presidents of the two universities I have referred to and the best recognized men in the United States.

Mr. MEIGHEN: What is the government holding a conference for? Is not that the work of the Scientific Research Council?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: As a matter of fact the meeting is called by Dr. Tory as one of the signers to the invitation. In fact Dr. Grisdale and Dr. Tory have both signed the invitations.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Will there be a dinner?

[Mr. Lucas.]

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Well, I presume they will dine somewhere.

Item agreed to.

Agriculture—	
Salaries .. .. .	\$713,585
Contingencies .. .. .	135,000

Mr. DOUCET: Will the minister inform the House if it is the intention to appoint a grading inspector for eggs in the province of New Brunswick, or in all the Maritime provinces?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I understand that in the Maritime provinces they are pretty well advanced in the matter of egg grading. They took the work up there before the other sections of Canada did. I understand that we are about to appoint an inspector.

Item agreed to.

#### SUPPLY—CONCURRENCE

Resolutions reported, read the second time and concurred in.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS BY COMMITTEES

##### RULING BY HIS HONOUR THE SPEAKER

Mr. SPEAKER: On the 15th of April a special committee was appointed to consider questions relating to the pensions, insurance and re-establishment of returned soldiers and any amendments to the existing laws in relation thereto which may be proposed or considered necessary by the committee.

On the 15th of July the committee presented its fourth report recommending that the Soldier Settlement Board make provision for reduction on the price of all live-stock advances to soldiers and purchased prior to the 1st of October, 1921; and, further, that in the event of any prepayment the soldier settlers shall receive a discount of five per cent per annum.

Mr. Denis (Joliette) chairman of the committee has moved concurrence in the report and Mr. Stewart (Argenteuil) has moved an amendment to strike out the portion of the report which relates to this five per cent discount. A point of order was raised by Mr. Meighen on the ground that committees have no right to recommend the expenditure of public moneys or to increase the charges upon the people. He pointed out that the House should not be called upon to approve of any expenditure which has not been proposed by a minister and recommended by the Crown. The theory that no private member may ask the House to vote public moneys is well known. An exception is often made for resolutions drafted in general terms, which are taken as pious wishes or recommenda-