

all the information that was required, and so my department was used as a guinea pig this session. We have submitted the Department of Agriculture to the committee, and for some weeks now we have been going through the process of permitting the members to go to that committee and get all the information they required from the officials. That information is all down in very good form, and any member can get these reports and read them.

When the committee began to sit, the question came up whether we were going to discuss in the house again all the matters that might be discussed in committee. There might be reasons for such a rule, but I said no; and I am not speaking now with the intention of debarring discussion, but simply to point out to the members who have not had the privilege of sitting in the agriculture committee that anywhere from twenty to sixty members of the house have been attending a considerable number of the sittings of that committee and gathering all this information. When the estimates of the Department of Agriculture were submitted to the committee I was hoping it would have the result of permitting hon. members to go to the committee to bring out the information they wanted, which would appear in reports from day to day just as *Harsard* comes out, and that the information so furnished would answer most of the questions that are now being asked, and that discussion here might be confined to policy.

Mr. STIRLING: Can the minister have an index to these volumes eventually produced? That would greatly assist in finding what you want.

Mr. GARDINER: The volumes are not indexed individually, and I understand that an index will be prepared to all the reports. Here is one report; the front page shows that there was a general introduction by myself and Doctor Barton—we were called before the committee first; then Mr. Singleton spoke on dairying, Mr. Shaw on production, Mr. Present on feeds, Mr. Brown on poultry, Mr. Pearsall on meats, and so forth.

Mr. STIRLING: The names of the witnesses who appeared before the committee are given, but if we are to use the reports as an informative work it would greatly assist if a subject index could be supplied when the reports are completed.

Mr. GARDINER: I think that will be done.

Mr. PERLEY: The minister referred to the fact that I had earlier in this session suggested the very thing he has just mentioned.

The information that is asked for will for the most part be found in the committee's reports. I just wish now to ask a question with respect to substations. Are they being used any more than they have been in the past, and if so to what extent? I know one or two in particular in my own district that are doing very little. I think they could be used to a much greater extent than they have been in the past.

Mr. GARDINER: Experimental work is being carried on at the farms right across Canada. The Indian Head farm, I imagine, would not be suitable for carrying on experiments in connection with some garden seeds and other seeds that might be produced on some of our farms elsewhere. We are using the farm at Indian Head to carry on experiments in connection with grains of all kinds, particularly to secure rust-resistant varieties of the different types of grain. We are using the Swift Current farm not only for the purpose of assisting in connection with irrigation but also to investigate the use of farm machinery. It is being utilized to the greatest extent possible during this war period. We are attempting to grow certain seeds at our British Columbia farms, and the same is true of the fruit areas both in the maritime provinces and in Ontario. All our experimental work in connection with dehydration, for example, was carried on in a very limited way before the war at our farms such as that at Summerland in British Columbia and Kentville in Nova Scotia, and the men who were engaged in that work are the men who are heading the whole activities now in connection with dehydration as related to the war.

So far as the commodities we were speaking of a few moments ago are concerned, we are producing plants which will give rubber. That is being done on our farms in different parts of Canada. The same is true of soya beans. We are experimenting with soya beans right across the country, to see if we can develop varieties which can be produced successfully in the colder regions of Canada as compared with the warmer sections of the United States. That kind of work is going on constantly.

Mr. WRIGHT: We have in northeastern Saskatchewan an area which is engaged in the growing of alfalfa seed, and in that area we have three illustration stations. They are doing good work now, but their work is limited. The growing of alfalfa seed is something about which we have still a lot to learn. I think more scientific study should be given to it. These illustration stations are doing the best they can, but there is no scientist at the station. The stations are operated by the farmer on his own farm, under supervision. I