

of the House and of the Senate and every person who had been on the list, stating that no one would receive seed grain who did not make a personal application to show bona fides. The result is that we have sent out between 24,000 and 25,000 samples instead of 37,000 last year; but of those who made personal application most of the individuals had made reports previously, or I would prefer to say that the number includes practically all those who had made reports previously, and we cut off a large number of those who had not reported. I feel that in order that this distribution of seed grain be effective and useful and justify public expenditure, we should obtain some reports and not simply leave the matter in the hands of individuals who may happen to obtain samples of the grain. I took this method of trying to reduce the waste, and I hope and believe a considerable reduction of the waste will ensue. As a matter of fact, in consequence of the circular asking people to make personal application to us a larger number of personal applications were made this year than usual. I felt that any one who took the trouble to make a personal application after receiving a circular of that kind, would be more likely to be incited to make a report, which is really what we want. As soon as I can see a way clear of utilizing the public money to the advantage of the farmers I shall not hesitate at all in asking Parliament for such a sum as shall be needed, but until I do see my way clear, I do not think it would be quite fair for me to ask the House to vote the money. I trust that by cutting down a large number of small unnecessary expenditures here and there, perhaps in some way economizing, but in no way hurting the efficiency of the experimental farms, I may be able to extend and improve them and make them larger and better than they have been in the past. Such at any rate shall be my effort.

Mr. CLANCY. The hon. gentleman will see that the seed grain must be distributed in the country, and the results cannot be accomplished in a year and must be attended with many failures before it reaches the 50 per cent which would be a very fair showing. I would suggest to the hon. gentleman (Mr. Fisher), that he should send circulars to those who receive grain asking them for their reports. Those who are acquainted with the methods of farmers generally, know that some are careless of correspondence, and I know of no expenditure that would be more useful than the small sum required to send out circulars asking those who receive the grain for their reports. I am glad the hon. gentleman has seen the inutility of sending seed grain to persons who are not engaged in agriculture or even gardening. The moment the Minister can get the farmers to make personal application for the seed grain, and to make prompt reports to the department, a great work

will be accomplished. We know that occasionally a man may be disappointed in the grain, that the conditions may have been against his success, and the probabilities are he will be discouraged from sending in any report. I hope that whatever expenditure the hon. gentleman (Mr. Fisher) cuts down he will not cut down the expenditure on seed grain distribution and other matters connected with it, and in obtaining prompt reports from those who receive it, but that on the contrary it will be his policy to increase it.

Mr. KAULBACH. My desire is that the agricultural interests of the country may be advanced in the best possible manner, and there is no better way calculated to promote scientific farming than by showing to the people of Canada the results obtained at the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa. I quite agree with some hon. gentlemen, that the expenditure in this direction is small and that perhaps we could accomplish greater and more beneficial results with the money at present voted, but I certainly agree that if we can obtain beneficial results we should not lessen the expenditure. When I visited the Central Experimental Farm a few days ago, the thought occurred to me that the lessons to be derived from such visits should be utilized as educators throughout the Dominion. I wish to offer some suggestions, not with a view of criticising but with a view of helping in the work. I do not think that the farm should be a mere experimental farm, but on the contrary that visitors, whether members of Parliament or any one else, should have an opportunity of seeing a model farm as well as an experimental, both as regards the character and convenience of the buildings as well as the mode of conducting the work and the keep of farm stock.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. Is the hon. gentleman speaking of the farm here?

Mr. KAULBACH. I am speaking of the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa. I do not wonder that the cattle in the barn on that farm became diseased, because during my visit, I found that the aroma from the silos was most objectionable, and the atmosphere inhaled by the cattle from day to day certainly most injurious to them. The barn itself is not so constructed as in my opinion to be of advantage to the farm. They cannot produce as much manure with cattle in a barn on the ground floor. Although the floor is cemented and all the liquids retained, still I believe that if that liquid were allowed to go into the solid manure, it would produce more beneficial results to the farm. I quite agree with my hon. friend (Mr. Clancy) in his remarks about the piggery, and I believe that improvements could be made in that direction in a variety of ways. I am not going to step aside in respect to my views with re-