

mission man that it is a considerable burden to him, and it has not been imposed for fear lest it should increase the cost of buying. The hon. member for Victoria City (Mr. Tolmie), I have no doubt, could contribute more information in regard to this matter than I can. I know there is the same difficulty in connection with grain, but not to so large an extent. But the difficulty is there, and I have had my attention brought to it in one or two instances where the farmer had lost money as a result. Nothing has been done yet that I know of to correct the trouble.

Mr. SUTHERLAND: I am afraid the minister misunderstood my question. I was asking if any complaints had been received by the department with regard to those who were licensed to dispose of stock on the live stock markets. Carload lots are consigned to the commissioned men, in many instances the owner does not attend the market at all, and consequently a good deal of confidence must be reposed in those men.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Does the hon. member mean complaints from the commission men themselves?

Mr. SUTHERLAND: No, they would not be likely to complain. I refer to complaints from the owners of live stock that the commission men may not have disposed of their stock to proper advantage. My reason for bringing this to the attention of the minister is that rumours to this effect have been in circulation, and I believe that as a result certain commission men have been very much injured. I also have information that the rumours are not correct. It is very easy to start such a rumour, and everyone knows how it will be passed, from one person to another, until it is given widespread circulation. If no such complaints have been made, I think the country should know it, and the commission men should not longer remain under the imputation of dishonesty.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: No complaints whatever have been made with the exception of one or two from correspondents in the country, as I have already recited.

Mr. SUTHERLAND: There are also other votes in connection with stallion clubs, representing a considerable amount. It is a new departure on the part of the department, but it has been in practice in the Old Country for some time. What portion of this sum has been given for the purpose

to clubs around in eastern Canada and in western Canada.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Mr. Chairman, we are kept pretty busy answering questions both here and in our office, and I think we should try to avoid duplication. This question is on the Order Paper, and we have not even come to it yet. There will be a whole lot of work involved in giving the information, and it will come down in due course. It is now nearly five o'clock, and if we keep on at this rate we are not going to conclude the session until the middle of July. It seems to me that if I give this information once, that should be sufficient. However, I am in the hands of the committee.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Carried.

Mr. SUTHERLAND: Notwithstanding the statement just made by the minister, I think the committees are entitled to know what this vote is for. Because a certain question appears on the Order Paper I do not think that is a very good reason why the information should not be furnished. This afternoon the minister was inclined to adopt a different attitude with regard to another matter that was under discussion, raised, I believe, by the hon. member for Swift Current (Mr. Lewis) relative to an insinuation that appeared in the press this morning. The minister now advocated applying the soft pedal, saying in effect: You cannot accomplish much by using a club. When he made that statement I could not help reflecting on what happened with regard to the British cattle embargo. I think the hon. member for Swift Current was amply justified in his objection; but I think some of our provincial ministers who took such an active part in the embargo agitation overseas had not very good grounds for doing so. I do not think any government in Canada has been negligent of its duty in trying to have that embargo removed.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Does the hon. gentleman know of any case in which I referred to the embargo question in any offensive way? I am not responsible for the action of provincial ministers.

Mr. SUTHERLAND: The minister stated that instead of the hon. member taking exception to the report which appeared in the Montreal Gazette, he might just as well or better have taken exception to the statements of some people nearer home, and later on, by way of justification, he went back to the elections of 1911.