

and 188 properties in the city are held by the military authorities with an assessed valuation of some \$3,000,000. Now that the military force has been considerably reduced there is no longer any necessity for maintaining and holding these properties. I might mention the Sackville street property, the old artillery and engineers' barracks which could very well be turned over to the city and a thoroughfare provided through from Brunswick street to the south end of the city. There is another property which would be of great advantage to the city authorities for rental purposes; I refer to the old ordnance property. I think it could very well be turned over to the civil authorities. This is a matter which seriously affects the city of Halifax. There is a great deal of tax exemption on these government properties. There are military, federal, provincial, civic, charitable and church institutions, and because of them the taxpayers find themselves in an unfortunate position. Their tax rate is very high because of these exempted properties. Would the minister make a statement as to the intention of the government in connection with these properties?

Mr. RALSTON: I wish I could give my hon. friend more definite information. As he knows, representations have been made to me by representatives from the city council and board of trade. These representations were made unofficially but nevertheless earnestly. May I say to my hon. friend that I have worked and am working in every way to see if there is a possibility of greater concentration in connection with the military properties of Halifax. I might say however that the situation is no more satisfactory from a military than it is from a civic standpoint. The difficulty is to get the money in order to effect these changes. At the present time we are trying to improve the Wellington barracks which have been vacant for a long time and I am hopeful that we may be able to concentrate some troops at that point.

Mr. QUINN: How soon may we expect to have the Royal Canadian Regiment transferred to that barracks?

Mr. RALSTON: My hon. friend knows that at least one company of that regiment is down there now.

Mr. BENNETT: Will the minister have one of his officials investigate the coal question in the city of Moose Jaw? I am not asking for details, in view of the short time at our disposal.

Mr. RALSTON: Very well, I shall do so.

Item agreed to.

[Mr. Quinn.]

Battlefields Memorials, \$144,000.

Sir GEORGE PERLEY: Can my hon. friend tell me when the Vimy memorial will be completed?

Mr. RALSTON: To answer that question I could make only a more or less informed guess. I have been over there myself, and I can only hope that it may be sufficiently completed by 1932 to permit unveiling. Colonel Osborne, the Secretary of the Canadian Battlefields Commission, which is in charge of the work, is there at present and is making complete investigations, and we will be better informed when he returns.

Item agreed to.

#### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Dairying, including grant of \$5,000 to National Dairy Council and new buildings, \$295,000.

Sir GEORGE PERLEY: I directed a question to the minister, which I believe appears on the order paper for to-day, and I believe this would be the opportune time to have the answer. I asked first as to the salary of the Montreal district veterinary inspector. My second question was as to where he resided, and my third as to whether he is expected to devote his whole time to this work.

Hon. W. R. MOTHERWELL (Minister of Agriculture): I have prepared an answer to the question of my hon. friend. In answer to the first question, I find that the minimum salary is \$2,640, the maximum \$3,000, and the present salary, \$2,760. I am informed that he resides at Huntingdon, Quebec, and that he is expected to devote his whole time to this work.

Mr. BENNETT: I suggest that we pass the items with the understanding that we might have a general discussion when the items are completed.

Item agreed to.

Health of Animals—administration of the Animal Contagious Diseases Act and the Meat and Canned Foods Act, and necessary buildings, \$2,550,000.

Mr. BENOIT: With regard to this item, Mr. Chairman, I regret very much to see that it has been reduced by \$400,000. I should like to point out to the minister that although this government has been somewhat generous in introducing vast restricted areas for the eradication of bovine tuberculosis, many complaints have been received from cattle owners whose herds have been depleted by the tubercular test without their receiving a substantial indemnity, and they have thereby