

steamship companies laid on the Table of the House. I do not suppose the hon. minister would have any objection to it. What degree of temperature is specified to be provided as regards the shipment of poultry meat? I see that the minister is about as ignorant as I am; he has to be prompted on that point.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. The hon. member (Mr. Monk) can quite understand that I do not carry every detail in my head.

Mr. MONK. Yes, I can quite realize that too.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. The hon. gentleman can be insulting and he can sneer if he chooses, but, he knows perfectly well that a minister is not expected to carry those details in his mind. The temperature required for poultry is about freezing, 30 to 32 degrees.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). We have recently observed in the newspapers that the Imperial government propose to supply the troops with meat, grown within the empire—

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. I understood it was home-grown meat.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). I have seen the expression 'home-grown beef' used, and I have also seen the opinion expressed that this means, not grown within the four seas but grown within the British Empire. It is also stated that for two days in the week, instead of one day as at present, the troops are to be supplied with imported dressed meat. Has the Minister of Agriculture taken any means to ascertain exactly what the proposal is? Will it give the colonies an opportunity of supplying this meat which was formerly supplied, at least to some extent, by the United States?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. I have taken no steps to find out particulars with regard to that, because, as a matter of fact, we have not supplied any fresh meat to the English army authorities. We have been supplying a large quantity of canned or pressed beef to them; all, in fact, that the Canadian producers can supply. We have obtained contracts of that kind from the War Office and have sent all that the Canadian producers were able to. In regard to this particular item, all the information I have is what the hon. gentleman (Mr. Borden, Halifax) has seen in the newspapers.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). Would it not be worth while for the hon. gentleman (Hon. Mr. Fisher) to send a cable for the purpose of obtaining information, and letting the farmers of Canada know whether there is an opportunity for them to supply meat which formerly came from the United States. It is extremely important that the farmers of this country should know that.

Mr. MONK.

Mr. MONK. Can the minister tell about what amount of canned beef we have supplied to the British War Office—I am afraid my hon. friend requires a great deal of priming.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. I am informed that we have sent forward about \$00,000 pounds of meat of that description, and we have been asked to send a couple of hundred thousand pounds more, but the Canadian producers cannot fill the order.

Mr. CLANCY. The government undertook to pay 5 per cent on a portion of the cost of certain warehouses, and last year we were told that there was only one of these, and that situated in Quebec. Can the minister tell us if there have been any erected in the meantime and what has been the success of the warehouse in Quebec?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. In addition to the one at Quebec we have been giving a grant to a warehouse at Charlottetown for two years. I have had various communications from St. John and Halifax in regard to this subject, but the people do not seem to be able to raise the money to do their share of the work. The proposal of the government was that we should give a certain interest on a certain investment, and in the case of Quebec and Charlottetown that arrangement was carried out. There is a company in St. John, and another in Halifax now corresponding with us, and I feel that we will perhaps modify the terms as much as would be consistent with the public interests for the purpose of bringing this object about, but the original terms have not been accepted. The company in Quebec have put improvements in the warehouse but they have not been successful in getting the cold storage accommodation utilized by the public. The time has expired for which we gave them help. At Charlottetown it was entirely a private enterprise of one individual and we secured for the public one chamber in the cold storage building which he put up for his own business purposes. The contract with regard to the Charlottetown warehouse will expire this season. I did not pay any more than had been originally proposed for that purpose.

Mr. CLANCY. It would seem that there has been more paid. The minister stated in this House formerly that the plan of the government was to pay 5 per cent on one-half or two-thirds of the cost of the building in Quebec, and he thought the building would cost \$40,000. I see the hon. member for Quebec (Hon. Mr. Dobell) smiling, and he no doubt is behind the scenes and can give an explanation. Now, if 5 per cent was paid on the whole cost of \$38,000 (and not on one-half or two-thirds of it) it would be something less than \$2,000. From page D-57 Auditor General's Report, I find to