

ers' meetings, and doing general entertainment. Compare his expenses with those of other live stock promoters, and you will find his out of all proportion.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: These accounts are all checked up very carefully. I hope my hon. friend is not suggesting that this account is padded or anything of that sort. We take every precaution against anything of that nature.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Who is this live stock promoter?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: His name is Stewart.

Mr. CAMPBELL: Can the minister give us any figures regarding the shipment of butter and eggs to the Old Country? There was a very serious falling off in both our butter and egg shipments in 1923 over 1922. I would judge from the minister's remarks that there has been an improvement this year. Can he give us any figures for this year?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: We import more eggs than we export, and the reason we do not export more butter is that Canada consumes most of her production herself. You can go on the British market to-day, or any other day, at any time of the year and you will not find Canadian butter there except on a very, very few markets, and if you find it on one market to-day, you may not find it there next week. The result is that the British buyer does not look favourably on our butter because of the non-continuity of the supply. We supply only two and a half or three per cent of their total importation.

Mr. CAMPBELL: The production of butter is steadily increasing. I have not the exact figures here, but it seems to be reflected in the price. There was not very much of a drop last year, and a considerable amount of our butter went to New York and paid the eight per cent duty. I can hardly understand that there is no surplus to ship to the Old Country market.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: A great deal of our butter fat goes out in the form of cream. While our butter production is increasing, so is the home consumption, because of the better quality.

Item agreed to.

Grant to the Department of Agriculture, province of Nova Scotia, to apply on the amortization of the debt against the Science building at the Agricultural College, Truro, N.S., \$20,000.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: This item and the following one are appropriations for the pur-

pose of making grants to two buildings, one in Nova Scotia and the other in New Brunswick. These provinces have received a grant under the Agricultural Instruction Act, for the past ten years, and these buildings were started. Then when the vote under that act was discontinued, we received representations from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, inasmuch as they suffered more than any other province in the first year this grant was reduced from \$1,100,000 to \$900,000. That was last year, and it struck the Maritime provinces harder because of their population, which is not growing like it is in the West. Alberta was reduced the first year by about \$2,500, and Saskatchewan by \$1,300, whereas the two Maritime provinces lost \$20,000 apiece because of the reduction in the grant last year, and this year it is altogether wiped out. We propose to continue these payments to these two provinces to equalize matters with the other provinces.

Mr. HOEY: Are these the final payments?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: No, they will have to continue for about four years.

Mr. HOEY: We have an agricultural college in Manitoba that is not paid for yet. I think this is a dangerous precedent.

Item agreed to.

To increase staff in connection with wheat rust investigational work and provide accommodation therefor, \$25,000.

Mr. LUCAS: Would the minister explain this item?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: The committee will remember that about a month or so ago the Agricultural committee, after hearing a number of addresses on cereal diseases, recommended an expenditure of \$50,000 for investigational work. It is partly due to that recommendation, and partly to the fact that we had come to the same conclusion ourselves, because Canada is losing through cereal diseases alone approximately \$100,000,000 a year, that this vote was included. It was thought that nothing like proper care was being taken in the way of curative measures to eradicate these diseases. We have arranged for a conference in Winnipeg next September on the rust problem itself, and we expect to have there the best experts on the continent. After that meeting we will be able to decide where to locate the laboratory for making these investigations. It will probably be in Manitoba.

Mr. LUCAS: Is not a great deal of this work done in the universities?