

a copy of the report from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police who investigated the case, or did he act simply on the advice given by Doctor Hilton at Ottawa?

Mr. GARDINER: I saw all the reports made by any one who investigated the case, including the police.

Mr. PERLEY: How many bulls came through the department under the live stock marketing scheme which operated in Saskatchewan last fall?

Mr. GARDINER: We have no record of that. They were not classified as bulls. All cattle under that scheme were classified as canners, cutters, cows and heifers for breeding purposes, and feeder cattle. Bulls would be sold on the market at the regular prices of butcher cattle.

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin-Simcoe): The government should consider giving greater assistance to the cattle industry in connection with the breeding of stock. I understand the government still has a swine policy, known as the brood sow policy.

Mr. GARDINER: Yes.

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin-Simcoe): I commend the government for the assistance given in swine production through the advance registry board and other means, but so far as the cattle industry is concerned it seems to be a more or less haphazard policy. We have heard about the bull loaning policy, but this seems to apply only to certain districts. If we are to have greater uniformity and a higher standard in our production, we must have a policy that applies more generally throughout the dominion. Some outlying districts have a few of the cheaper type cattle; others have excellent herds, but we should have a general policy that will give stimulus to the production of better live stock. I suggest to the minister that he should consider adopting a policy of sire assistance. Under the present bull loaning policy it is possible that you may have in close proximity to your club a live stock breeder still using an inferior sire. This practice affects the production of the whole district and brings down the market. There is a mixing of poor quality stock with the better stock produced under the bull loaning policy.

I believe it would be a better policy to provide assistance to any farmer who wishes to buy a good sire. Our farmers would be given encouragement to eliminate their scrub sires and replace them with pure bred stock which had been inspected and accredited by

the government. I am not censuring the department for continuing the policy that has been in vogue; I am not condemning the minister and his able officials for the efforts they have made to improve our live stock industry, but I do feel that very slow progress has been made in connection with our cattle industry. The government has very little to show for the assistance which has been given in the last year or so. I have no desire to make a comparison with what was done in 1933 and 1934. The number of bulls bought for loaning purposes in those years was slightly larger than the number purchased in 1936 and 1937. The minister has pointed out certain reasons for this difference. The hon. member for Haldimand (Mr. Senn) has pointed out that certain of these sires are put up for sale, and it is quite reasonable to assume that the proceeds of these sales might relieve the department of any great expense in continuing this policy. The present policy is sectional; it assists only a certain class of farmers in the outlying districts who could be assisted just as effectively under a broader policy. As the hon. member for Haldimand has pointed out, many pure bred cattle are being sold as ordinary cattle. If we had an effective policy of providing assistance for the purchase of pure bred sires, it seems to me there would be a greater improvement in our standard. We would be able to develop a uniformly higher grade in this industry.

I suggest to the department that during the forthcoming year consideration be given to adopting a broader policy. In many districts in Ontario, in fact not far from my own district, many pure bred cattle are being shipped for slaughter. Pure bred bulls are being sold at butcher prices when farmers in the same districts are producing a most inferior type of cattle. Sometimes this is on account of their lack of judgment; they assume it to be their own business; but if we are going to compete with countries that have a more rigid enforcement of their laws and regulations, this practice must cease. Perhaps it is too much to suggest to this or any other government that there should be an absolute elimination of scrub sires in this dominion. Perhaps that drastic step cannot be taken in this country as it has been taken in certain others. It may not be considered wise to license producers in Canada as has been done in other countries, but I think we could develop a policy that could be applied more generally. We should have a policy that would be available to Tom Smith and Bob Jones, a policy that would be available to everyone. As the hon. member for Haldimand has pointed out, the