

tions for his pamphlet, but the reason is that he has deceived the public by it, and they will soon wake up to the fact that they have been deceived by the Minister of Agriculture, who pretends to know more than he does. The Minister of Agriculture says that I can learn nothing from him. I would be very sorry if I could learn anything from the minister about farming, and I can tell him that the farmers of this country can learn nothing from his farming. I am willing to pay any reasonable amount for experiments in these experimental plots, and I believe they are very useful, but I also believe I should not be asked to pay my hard earned money to keep up a farm that the minister admits he cannot make pay. I can tell the minister that there are hundreds and thousands of farmers in this country who have better and more artistic buildings on their farms than he has got on his experimental farm. The experiments made by these scientific men are of value, and the people are willing to pay a liberal sum for the benefits we derive from them, but otherwise the thing is of very little value. We know as much about cheese making and butter making as any gentleman there, unless it is Professor Robertson. We know that the minister spent \$40,000 in experimenting in curing cheese in cold storage, when he could have made his experiments for a couple of thousand dollars in any well equipped cheese factory. I repeat what I said, that the minister is deceiving the public because he led the farmers to believe that he could make chicken farming pay, when the Auditor General's Report shows that his experiment was worse than a failure.

Mr. TAYLOR. I am not surprised at the statement made by the minister that he has had a great many applications for these stations. I suppose every government supporter throughout the country would like to have a station on his farm. There is one of those stations at a place called Holmesville, which, I presume, is in the constituency of the hon. gentleman from West Huron (Mr. Holmes) and there a gentleman got an expenditure of \$613.36 and he returned \$196, showing a deficit of over \$400. Another at Bowmanville expended \$225.29 and returned 66 cents. If the hon. minister's statement is correct, that these are experimental stations, how does it come that this gentleman purchased a lot of eggs and supplies, and only got 66 cents out of the lot? Would not every voter in the country want one of these stations at his door when he sees the results that follow. The gentleman at Bowmanville was paid \$150 for his services, from the 24th April to the 24th July—\$50 a month. Every farmer would like to get that for feeding a few chickens. He bought 1,722 eggs, at \$20.78. He must have sucked them all, because he only returned 66 cents out of the lot. So I am not surprised at the statement of the minister that he has appli-

Mr. COCHRANE.

cation after application for these stations. I have only read a few items, but there are dozens of others all over the country. I am sure that several of these stations could be planted in the constituency of Leeds, among the hon. gentleman's friends there. They would like to have them, and have the care of the chickens. Is the minister satisfied with these results of his experimenting?

Mr. HOLMES. I am sorry I did not happen to be in the House when the matter of the Holmesville chicken station was first referred to, because I would like to have heard all that was said in relation to it. But I can say that although it shows a deficiency on the expenditure, the people in the neighbourhood, irrespective of their political proclivities, are glad to have the station, and admit that it has been a success. I can say further that the egg-suckers referred to by the hon. member for Leeds (Mr. Taylor) are not confined to the Liberal party; for I had an application this week from a Conservative in Goderich who realized the success of the Holmesville station and wanted one established at Goderich also. I am sorry that the minister was not able to grant the request, because I am satisfied that the people of West Huron, altogether regardless of political predilections, regard the station at Holmesville as a success and as doing a good work.

Mr. POPE. Are these chickens fed with the feeding machine?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. Sometimes they are, and sometimes they are not.

Mr. POPE. Why are they not all fed alike?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. They are not using the machine much now.

Mr. POPE. It was only a year or two ago that we were advised by the Minister of Agriculture that the squirt was the only proper thing with which to feed chickens. Surely, after having made the careful investigation which the hon. minister must have made before recommending this priming machine, which was adopted at his suggestion or at the suggestion of his department, he must have known whether that machine was a success or not.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. It was an experiment.

Mr. POPE. It had been experimented with in very many parts of the world. It was not the invention of the hon. gentleman—this squirt which he used to pump food into the chickens. Why, as I look at the picture of this well-dressed gentleman in this pamphlet, I could almost fancy that it represented the first experiment of the Minister of Agriculture himself on that chicken.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. A good likeness.