

they do from all sources of infection. Several animals in the dairy herd had had the disease in its incipient stages when bought, but in its early stages the disease is so imperceptible that no veterinary surgeon, however skilled, can detect it. Mr. Dryden then alluded to the opinion that two Guernseys which had been imported had been the cause of the outbreak, and, by a review of the circumstances, showed this to be unfounded; Prof. Reed concurring in this conclusion. The animals were brought there at Christmas, and a Canadian-bred animal was in an advanced stage in April, showing, in view of the slow progress of the disease, that it must have caught it before. As for the matter of the sale, no animals had been offered for sale which were known to be diseased, and at the time of the sale none were sick, but all were perfectly healthy and sound, so far as anyone could judge. If the college authorities had definitely carried out his instructions there would have been no animals sold of which complaint could be made. Four calves, the offspring of cows which, according to the lymph test, were infected, had been offered for sale. Prof. Reed and all the authorities which the speaker had read agreed that the chances of the disease proving hereditary were very slight, it being spread by contact, though not quite so infectious as Mr. McColl seemed to think; it depended to a large extent on the strength of the animals' constitutions whether they took it or not. When he found that these calves were out of these cows, he had the buyers not only notified, but asked to let them stay at the college, where they all are now. No one had been harmed; one gentleman had bought another calf and had expressed some uneasiness on hearing of the outbreak; he had been asked to return the animal, tests were applied and it shown to be perfectly healthy.

As for the conflict of testimony, Mr. Dryden did not know of any, and would be obliged to Mr. McColl for his information which had led him to think there was such a conflict. There was nothing to hide; they were trying to investigate the facts, and because they took that course certain persons had taken advantage of the circumstance to make a noise in the country. The disease is by no means the same as the pleuro-pneumonia which has barred Canadian cattle out of the English market, though some persons seem to think so. The isolation had been sufficient; there were not enough buildings to keep all the cattle in absolutely different places, but the healthy and diseased cattle had been kept in separate buildings, and the two imported or had been kept in a room partitioned and, in the opinion of Prof. Reed, sufficient for isolation purposes. These were the only ones at that time known to be infected, the others not having been tested as yet. The slaughtering, which had been carried out in his presence, had been by way of experiment, and one of the animals had been so slightly infected that an ordinary butcher or farmer would never have noticed it. He had no objection to the motion, but would let clause 6 be struck out, as all sold had been calves and bred on the Experimental Farm.

Mr. Magwood spoke on the topic, taking the ground that there had not been sufficient isolation or quarantining of the animals. They had been permitted to pasture with the others of the herd, instead of careful supervision being exercised. There should have been more care exercised in buying the animals. It was through animals carelessly bought in Great Britain and the United States and imported that the disease had been introduced, while the way in which they had permitted them to pasture with the others was greatly to be censured.

Mr. Dryden—They were not pastured at all. They were kept in the stable the whole time.

Mr. Magwood replied that that did not improve matters. The cattle had not been isolated, but had been permitted to herd together for the purpose of experiment. He did not approve of the Minister's action in permitting the cattle to be sold under the circumstances. He was inclined to think the disease was not a Canadian one, and that it was caused by the policy of importing British and American cattle.

Dr. McKay (Oxford) said so far as those engaged in agriculture in his district were concerned they were eminently pleased with the work of the Agricultural College, and particularly with the experiments made there. He was somewhat surprised at Mr. Magwood's remarks in regard to the disease. The listener would gather from them that it was imported from the old country, and did not exist here otherwise. Why, it was well known that there is scarcely a large herd either in the United States or Canada, or anywhere else, where tuberculosis is not found more or

less. The college authorities had done admirable work in keeping clear of the disease so long, and in its treatment of it when the outbreak occurred. They deserved particular credit for the introduction of the scientific test by Dr. Koch's lymph. He was surprised at the frivolous character of the criticisms of the college from the other side of the House. He thought there was no institution anywhere that did so much financially for the Province as the Agricultural College did. He thought it more popular to-day, and more deserving of popularity, than at any previous period of its existence. It had done particularly good service in its experiments into this disease. In conclusion, Dr. McKay remarked it was not fair or reasonable for the hon. gentleman to say that this disease was imported from the old country, when it was a well-known fact that it was found in connection with almost every large herd in existence.

Mr. White, when he spoke, bestowing special credit on the college authorities for their work in the Guernseys had been the cause of the disaster. He cited the opinion of Prof. Dean, in his part of the report of the Agricultural College, to the effect that they had been the cause.

Mr. Dryden—Dr. Reed does not agree with Prof. Dean.

"There seems to be disagreement all round," retorted Mr. White. He then went on to assert that Mr. Johnston, the buyer of the animals, had notified the Minister that he felt suspicious of one of the cows and if Mr. Dryden had ignored this warning he was not fit to be Minister and preside over so important a department. He and those on that side of the House had previously reproached the Minister with his policy of importing cattle from countries like Great Britain, which were known to be the centres of disease. It was by these importations that the disease was spread in Canada, and the policy was a bad one. The Minister should pay more attention to the duties of his office, and not go flying over the country, pitching into his brother Patrons.

Mr. Awrey thought it unfortunate the Opposition should use an outbreak of this disease at Guelph for party purposes. The Experimental Farms of Guelph and Ottawa were established for educational purposes, and particularly for the purpose of making experiments which were too costly or too elaborate for private enterprise. The Government had not attempted to hide the existence of the disease. The hon. gentleman said the whole herd should have been slaughtered when the disease was discovered. Twenty-two had been slaughtered, out of about 40. The first test was not always sufficient to require the slaughter of the animal. Two or three tests were frequently necessary, even among experts, before the existence of the disease could be satisfactorily demonstrated. The member for Essex had complained because the Minister of Agriculture had spoken of this disease existing in the United States. Well, tuberculosis was nothing more or less than consumption, and it would be surprising if a northern clime were not more conducive to consumption than that of a country further south. Now, there were 26 animals slaughtered at Ottawa, against 22 at Guelph. He thought members of the House should commend the authorities both at Guelph and at Ottawa for their prompt action in the matter. At Guelph all that the test had shown to be infected had been slaughtered. Tests were still being made. But, after the slaughter of 26 animals at Ottawa, what did they do? They actually shipped 37 animals from the same herd to different experimental stations throughout the country. It was possible they had been tested, and that there was no crime in such action. But it showed at least that the authorities at Ottawa did not regard it as imperative to slaughter the whole herd because of the outbreak. If all the animals in Ontario tainted with tuberculosis were to be slaughtered, it would be hard on many farmers who were engaged in stock-raising, for there was no doubt it existed in a mild form in a good many herds in the Province. As to the allegation that Mr. Dryden had been buying stock in the old country, Mr. Awrey asked the hon. gentleman what he would have him do, and if it was not a notorious fact that for the last 25 years herds of cattle in this country had been continually strengthened by importations, particularly from Scotland and England. He closed by asking the farmers of the House to repudiate the attacks made on the Agricultural College. (Applause.)

#### THE OPPOSITION LEADER.

Mr. Meredith said that no one was finding fault with the management of the Agricultural College, and that no one was criticizing them for making the experiment; all the talk on these points on the part of the hon. gentlemen opposite seemed to be for the purpose of diverting at-