

Agricultural Com. Report

(Continued from page 3)

this is repaid many times over by the better price received for the product.

In Manitoba they had an advantage over us on account of their larger creameries, making it easier and less expensive to employ competent graders at each factory. On the other hand, in Ontario, we have many small creameries, and it will be a problem to work out some practical system that will be efficient without being too expensive. But the gentleman at the head of the Dairy Branch has the matter in hand, and I have no doubt he will make a success of it. I would like to say just here that in my meetings over the province, we were so impressed with the growing importance of the dairying industry that we recommended the appointment of an expert who should have nothing else to do but devote his whole time and energy to it. I am now glad to be able to congratulate the Minister on having secured the services of Mr. Barr, a gentleman who stands very high in the estimation of dairymen all over the Dominion, and who has not a superior on the continent. It is estimated that the improved quality of butter manufactured from graded cream will result in an increased price of at least 2 cents per pound, and when we find the amount of creamery butter made in Ontario is from 60,000,000 to 70,000,000 pounds per annum, I think I am making a very conservative statement when I say this will mean at least \$100,000 in the pockets of the dairy farmers of the province.

Marketing of Tender Fruits

In regard to apples and tender fruits, our report, based as it was on the best experience on the continent, showed that it is in the strictest grading and preparation for market, along with proper shipping facilities that the fruit growers are served financially. The Report is admitted to have had the effect for which it was intended, and it aroused not only the growers but also the railways to the practical improvement of conditions. It also showed that some refrigeration schemes were not only costly but unnecessary.

The Report also gave publicity to the economic demand of the dairy, fruit and vegetable producers to protection in the home market. The facts were dealt with and published entirely free from political influence and without any desire to make political capital.

I need only refer to the dispatch in the Globe of March 6 to show that the Dominion minister of agriculture himself concedes the need of protection for fruit growers. The despatch quotes Mr. Motherwell's address to the Canadian Horticultural Council in these words:

"What you want far more than increase in grant of legislation amending the fruit act," he said, "is more protection on your fruit from foreign competition, and that is natural. Anything like fruit or vegetables, or winter eggs that is subject to competition due to climatic conditions, which is thought to be unfair competition, demands some legislative consideration."

Canadian Produce Featured

While I am on this subject of fruit, I would like to call the attention of the House to what is happening in England at the present time. I hold in my hand the elaborate report on the Fruit Trades Federations on national advertising. We all recognize that the home market is the best for the producer. But the problem is to make the best disposition of the surplus of fruit and other agricultural products. These federations are helping us enormously, and not they alone, but they have instituted what are called empire produce displays in large, important centres in England. London is taking the lead, and London, as we know, is a hard market to capture. In connection with this campaign I see by the London Times of March 9 that so rapidly has the movement inspired by Premier Stanley Baldwin, got under way that a growing demand is reported for Empire produce in British shops everywhere. In London such leading places as Harrold's, Selfridge's, the Army and Navy Stores, Fortnum & Mason's are arranging exhibitions in their windows of foodstuffs from the dominions and featuring all Empire produce before their customers and the public.

Giving Canadian Bacon Due Merit

For the first time the Committee brought into the light of day the real facts concerning the shipping of United States corn-fed pork products to Great Britain, where it was retailed as Canadian bacon or indistinguishable from Canadian. This condition originated during the war when it was necessary to supply the enormous demand for food, and our Canadian packers imported American pork, paid the duty, cured it here and exported it to England and received a rebate of the duty. It was claimed this practice had been stopped, but on looking into the trade returns we found that during the year 1924, the packers had received their rebate on 25,000,000 pounds of American pork, cured in Canada and exported. Now I presume it would be a fair estimate to say that each 100 pounds of this would mean the product of one average hog and that 250,000 American hogs displaced that number of Canadian hogs which should have been supplied by us to the British market.

But this is not the worst of the situation. This soft corn-fed pork had the effect of so lowering the grade of our bacon that there was a difference of 28 shillings per cwt. compared with the Danish and Irish product. But now, owing to the

publicity given by this Committee and also owing to the business sense of the packers themselves, as well as the breeding of select types of bacon hogs, the differential has been practically wiped out, and our Canadian bacon commands a price equal to the very best on the English market. I feel I should not leave this subject without giving credit to General Gunn for his efforts in bringing about this improved condition, and for his having obtained the very highest awards at the Wembley Exhibition where the bacon of his company was adjudged 100 per cent perfect on every point.

Live Hogs Shipped to England

A new feature of the hog industry is the shipment of live hogs. I have particulars of the shipment of 1,140 in the first lot, which arrived in splendid condition and secured satisfactory prices. On shipboard they occupied the space required for cattle in the proportion of 40 hogs to 8 cattle. This establishes another method of disposing of live hogs, if it be continued, which should prevent, to some extent at least, fixing of the price of hogs by the local packers on this side from week to week. I may add in justice to my own County of Grey, that it is furnishing at the present time a larger percentage of select bacon hogs than any other County in Ontario, and the stock yards reports show this to be the case.

Some Special Branches of Farming

Though the work of the Committee has been concentrated on the leading branches of farming, it is a matter for congratulations that some specialized branches to which much attention has been paid, such as fur farming, fish and game conservation, and reforestation, have witnessed substantial development and official encouragement.

Feed at the Stock Yards

One of the first complaints we heard was the high price and poor quality of hay and feed supplied at the stock yards, and at the request of the Committee made to the Live Stock Commissioner, the price of hay was cut from \$40 per ton, and is now \$16.50 per 100 lbs. or about \$32 per ton. The amount of hay used at the Toronto yards alone averages 180 tons per week, and this cut made by the Committee saves \$60,000 per year, and should accrue to that amount to the benefit of the farmers whose stock is marketed here. There is still room for improvement in the quality of the feed, and it is to be hoped the Department will continue to follow it up.

Hon. Mr. Biggs: "You say hay, any time I was present in the stock yards I never saw real hay. You could not call it hay."

Dr. Jamieson: "The live stock Commissioner told us there had been an improvement. But there is certainly room for more improvement in the quality."

Mr. Clarke: "Why Live Stock Commissioner?"

Dr. Jamieson: "The Dominion Live Stock Commissioner exercises supervision by regulations prescribed under the Live Stock and Live Stock Products Act."

Mr. Clarke: "I was asking for information."

Milkers and Springers at the Yard

Dr. Jamieson: At the present moment, at the request of the Committee, proper provision is being demanded for freshening cows and new-born calves arriving at Toronto yards, a long-felt and long-denied concession to humane feeling for dumb animals. This grievance involves a loss of not less than \$100,000 a year to the farmers of Ontario. I will only quote the concluding paragraph of a letter to the Live Stock Commissioner on the subject from the Agricultural Committee of this Legislature:

"As long as freshening cows come to the Toronto yards, and they are received at or about the rate of 150 a week, springers and milkers, they should not be suffered to lie down among other cattle and thus be disturbed, frightened, exposed and injured. This Committee would suggest to you that this matter be adequately dealt with once for all. We need only remind you that the value of baby animal that calves in the stock yards depreciates at once by at least \$25, and the whole flow of milk for the season is affected. The farmer is the loser, and in his interest, this committee begs to press the matter upon your earnest attention."

Sundry Other Concessions Gained

Railway time schedules and the class of equipment have been improved for the moving of fresh fruit to market from the Niagara and other districts. We have on our files letters from railway companies giving local concessions to facilitate farm shipments in Northern Ontario, in Algoma, in the Bruce Peninsula and elsewhere.

We have had settlers' rates restored in the Districts of Algoma, Thunder Bay and Rainy River, and this was obtained only after a continuous and lengthy correspondence with the Railway Companies.

Stockers and Feeders

I have to record one failure we met with in our endeavors to get the railways to reduce the charges on stockers and feeders going back from the Toronto yards to Ontario farms for feeding. The case was presented to them with all the strength and force with which we were capable, but they were immovable. This is but one item however in the cattle feeding and marketing problem to which the Committee gave its attention. We have presented a comprehensive plan which if carried out will solve the cattle feeding question so far as Ontario is concerned and allow



FAMOUS HISTORIAN DIES

Miss Janet Carnochan, who devoted her life to the collection of Canadian historical data and relics, who has passed away in her 87th year. She founded the Niagara Historical Society and was its president for thirty years.

deal of truth in the statements of Mr. Gilroy, and at the time we gave so much publicity to the conditions existing that the Dominion Government felt itself compelled to take some action to remedy matters.

Mr. W. T. R. Preston was hurriedly sent overseas to make an investigation, which he did, and the report submitted by him substantiated everything said by us. It even went farther and made more sweeping statements as to the combine existing on all classes of freight, and recommended the subsidizing of an independent line of steamers to be operated by the Peterson Line.

Mr. Sinclair: "I have the order in council showing Mr. Preston's appointment in advance of this Committee by six weeks."

Dr. Jamieson: "I accept the Hon. gentleman's statement. But the public knew nothing of it, and our correspondence with the Department August does not indicate his appointment. My point is that this Committee stirred up the matter very effectively."

Honorable gentlemen will remember the contract arranged with Sir William Peterson, but fortunately not carried out, by which he was to receive an annual subsidy of \$1,250,000, while we had a fleet of over fifty vessels of our own, the property of the Dominion Government which might well have been employed in breaking up the combine and stabilizing freight rates on all our exports. But unfortunately the Government owned boats were also tied up and formed part of the North Atlantic Conference agreement.

Increased Outlet for Cattle

About this time, Mr. H. P. Kennedy, the largest Canadian shipper of cattle, and his associates, organized a company with extensive connections amongst the farmers of the old country, and in connection with this they have purchased and are fitting out a fleet of four steamers especially equipped and engaged entirely in the cattle trade with experienced cattle men forming part of the permanent crew, and every condition up to the highest standard of efficiency for the feeding and care of the cattle during the voyage. Their first boat, the "Ontario," was loaded with 1,077 cattle at St. John's, and this committee had an opportunity of examining her before she sailed on January 24, and ran into some of the worst storms ever known on the Atlantic. She made an average run of ten knots for the first six days, but on account of an unperceived shortage of coal in her bunkers, was obliged to shut down her speed to six knots. She reached Birkenhead in thirteen days, landed one-half of her cattle there and the rest in Glasgow, all in excellent condition. The bad weather experienced caused the loss of thirteen head, a small number under the circumstances, especially when we consider that another cattle boat which we inspected at the same time and which sailed the same day, drifted helplessly on the Atlantic for about two weeks and was finally towed into port in France, with the loss of over half her cargo of cattle. With suggestions as to certain minor improvements, the "Ontario" was passed by the British Agricultural Committee and Board of Trade, whose requirements are of the most stringent character. It is only fair to state here that we also examined the "Carmia" of the Donaldson Line, which was already loaded with 977 cattle, in addition to other cargo, and which sailed a few days ahead of the "Ontario." This ship is well fitted for the trade, and in fact, I believe since this agitation was started, there have been great improvements in all the steamers engaged in the trade, and we have had results, so far as the cattle trade is concerned, that are hard to estimate in dollars. The regulations are strict, and it matters little to the shipper if he is charged a couple of dollars in the rate when he saves it three times over in time, fuel and the wastage incurred by long sea voyage.

Everything in this Report to which the Committee gives its sanction was made on first-hand information and observation of actual conditions. (Continued on page 7)

Canadian and Irish Conditions

I may refer the House to different conditions affecting cattle importation into Britain from Ireland and Canada. I quote some remarks made at a recent meeting of the British Council of Agriculture. Mr. A. Haldane (President of the Scottish Federation) said: They were firm for the entire removal of the embargo on all classes of Canadian cattle. They had been told it was a political and not an economic question. The medical officer had told them that out of every 1,000 animals, 68 were tuberculous, whilst only one in every 4,000 from Canada was affected. Was not the health of the country and a pure milk supply of paramount importance? And the economic aspect ought not to be set aside for the political. He confidently appealed to the Federation to do all they could, through the press and their meetings, for the right they had been tricked out of, the free admission of all Canadian cattle on the same terms and conditions as those from the Irish Free State.

Alderman Byrne said that as an old member of the Canadian Cattle Association, he would like to say there was a movement on foot to rejoin the Association at Birkenhead where the opinion was that Canada should be placed on the same footing as Ireland.

Mr. J. Irving (Chester) had pleasure in supporting the resolution. He pointed out that the cost of eliminating 8,000 cattle since September had cost £38,000. The Ministry were tied down to £20,000, but they had overstepped the cost. He was practically howled down by farmers in July, 1924, when he read a paper on the subject at a conference. A pure milk supply was a vital necessity, and Canada could supply cows free from disease.

A Birmingham delegate suggested that Councillor Edwards be asked to write a series of articles on the Canadian cattle question, and request the editor of The Meat Trades Journal to publish same.

The significance of that discussion, Mr. Speaker, is that Canadian cattle are still at a disadvantage and that the British cattle experts want our disease-free Canadian milkers.

Preston's Investigation in England Our attention was first called to some abuses or difficulties under which Canadian shippers were suffering, by Mr. Gilroy, now president of the U. F. O. Co-operative, at one of our meetings in his county of Lambton, and himself a shipper. It was pointed out by him that a Mr. Charles Shamburg of New York held a practical monopoly of all the cattle space on the shipping of the North Atlantic Conference, and that Canadians were handicapped thereby. He also asserted the cattle were not properly fed and cared for during the trans-Atlantic passage.

We made a careful and thorough enquiry and found there was a great

deal of truth in the statements of Mr. Gilroy, and at the time we gave so much publicity to the conditions existing that the Dominion Government felt itself compelled to take some action to remedy matters. Mr. W. T. R. Preston was hurriedly sent overseas to make an investigation, which he did, and the report submitted by him substantiated everything said by us. It even went farther and made more sweeping statements as to the combine existing on all classes of freight, and recommended the subsidizing of an independent line of steamers to be operated by the Peterson Line. Mr. Sinclair: "I have the order in council showing Mr. Preston's appointment in advance of this Committee by six weeks."

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The Home Garden

SNAPPY SNAPDRAGONS EASY TO GROW

Snappy snapdragons are easily within the reach of the humblest gardener. They are easy to grow, and no finer annual for garden decoration and for bouquets can be grown. The snapdragon, too, is a perennial and may be kept over in the open ground if kept dry. It is not particularly susceptible to cold weather, but winter wet rots it. In well-drained soil, it often survives with a protecting mulch. The main factor in growing snapdragons is to sow early and grow cool. The seed may be started to germinate in a room which is just a little above the freezing point at the coldest, and not above 50 at the warmest. The seedlings come up and apparently stand still for a time, but they are gaining speed for a sprint when they get outside. If you belong to a garden club, you will undoubtedly refer to this



SNAPDRAGONS ARE EASILY GROWN

old-fashioned plant as an antirrhinum. That is its scientific name and one taken up by florists when they made the snapdragon a poppy-greenhouse product.

You can grow as fine spikes as a florist if you want to take the time and trouble, but shorter spikes and more of them give the best effect in the garden. For a sheet of bloom the intermediate class is best. For edging, the Tom Thumb type is excellent, and for massive spikes, the giant or majus type.

Do not plant snapdragons in freshly manured soil. They do best in soil which was well fertilized and cultivated the previous year. They will like a phosphatic manure during their growing season. This means bone meal, the finest in texture procurable. They need good drainage, and it is better to give them a good mulch of lawn clippings in hot, dry spells than to water frequently. An occasional soaking and mulch takes them along in fine style. To grow the big spikes, plant the majus or giant type seeds. Confine the plant to one stem and pinch out the side branches as they appear, a few at a time, so as not to prove too much of a shock to the plant. Give the plants a square foot

EARLY VEGETABLES IN DEMAND

Every gardener in the land has his early seeds in hand or has ordered them or expects to buy them over the counter this month, if he is a forehanded gardener. In some of the more favored sections of the country, seeds of the early vegetables are already in the ground, and other sections are waiting for the first chance to put them in.

Radishes, spinach, lettuce early peas, and onions are the staples of the early gardener and the first harvest of the home garden patch. The radish supply can be sowed at one time now instead of the usual repetitions with an extra early, early, mid season and late variety, to mature in succession. The same succession can be put in two weeks later, and the work is done for the season.

Head lettuces should be sprouting in boxes or hotbeds by this time to be ready to transplant into permanent quarters as soon as it is safe to do so. Many gardeners refuse to bother with headless head lettuce any longer, and have taken to the habit of running up to seed as speedily as their old-time relatives. They give a bigger and better supply of leaves for early greens. These new types are known as King of Denmark, Antvorsk, Thick Leaved, and Savoy types. All are great improvements over the thinner, smaller leaved types that have been grown for years.

White Portugal is now a popular onion to grow for young onions from seed, a fast developer, tender and mild flavored. It is also a popular sort for pickling onions.

The new slowed-up spinaches are a big advance over old types. The skill of their inventors has succeeded in breaking them of the habit of running up to seed as speedily as their old-time relatives. They give a bigger and better supply of leaves for early greens. These new types are known as King of Denmark, Antvorsk, Thick Leaved, and Savoy types. All are great improvements over the thinner, smaller leaved types that have been grown for years.

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Then He Saw Red

"You remind me of Moses!" "How's that?" "Every time you open your mouth the bull rushes."

See The Men's Blue Cheviot Trousers for \$2.98 THIS WEEK at McComb's EVERYTHING CASH

for Economical Transportation. CHEVROLET Thousands of testimonials! In 1925 CHEVROLET had its greatest year. During that time literally thousands of testimonial letters were received from satisfied Chevrolet owners—a tremendous avalanche of evidence that the public possesses a genuine appreciation of the car and its performance. In 1926 Chevrolet offers even greater values than before. With its never-failing standard of quality and the new LOWER prices, Chevrolet is demonstrating to the public, in greater degree than ever, its policy of "QUALITY AT LOW COST". A. NOBLE, Dealer, Durham D. McTavish & Son, Flesherton Distributors Greater Quality at Low Cost

Canada The Creation Demand Na AS SEEN BY The First of Time IMMIGRATION AN FOR FOODS At the last conv United Farmers of a lution criticizing col at public expense wa resolution recite w farmers cannot be with enthusiasm contribute additional to bring in outside with existing agricu ers, particularly in mand of Canadian a for protective legisla trial products. To fortunately worded. sues. It lacks entire of intelligent consid proper sense of res the part of an organ is now generally reg of Canada's most i sane deliberative bodi AN ILL-ADVISED The general view A. on the priciple tariffs are well know vention now, howe what virtually is a p icaly for Canada in riculultural developme hardly consistent. Of resolution is not to too seriously. It was tended as a piece of s santry. But it was, distinctly out of plac displeasure of the respect to other matten tional issue of such vta as colonization. It m be profitable to briefl what extent addition tural producers might compete with or affect ciled rural populatio what benefits might, o hand, accrue to our fa added agricultural po Canada. These seem questions involved in THE EXPORT MA To start with, we sh realize that the West is producing almost export sale. Also the not, within the next co erations, the faintest p an industrial developm ada on so magnificent to create a home m enough to completely c staple products of ou Western agricultural e need not, therefore, ev the problems such a cha omic situation would pr export market is, and w our only outlet. STARVATION IN 19 The increasing pop Europe and the devel trade in agricultural pro the teeming millions c countries, coupled with t ing home demands of m present exporting coun amply counterbalance an Canadian production of Professor East, of Har versity, has even made prediction, after p investigation, that by whole world will face through under supply of we need not apparen ourselves over much question of not findin market for any volume dian staple agricultural we are apt to raise. I fore, difficult to see h creased number of Cana cultural producers could demoralize our present ADVANTAGES TO AGRIC We might also reason clude that a farmer in G tain, Sweden or Rouman as such in competition. Western farmers in the market, whether he produ own country, in ours, or other. If, however, suc petitor settles in Cana, ence with us will tend to the value per acre of al tural lands, much to the of the Canadian farmer. inflow of new settlers a decidedly beneficial effe prices of work horses an tic breeding stock of al The absence of such an class of stock not awa mand at the public mark to age and condition, ha effect on all live stock val ing the past years of col stagnation. The Canadian should welcome new settl open arms for these reaso NOT A CLASS PROBLE The colonization probl ada is not in any sense problem, and those who to make it so, assume a responsibility. A vigorous a don't leave