

rent Provinces. In the county where I live we are growing the Osage orange to a great extent just now. That might not do further north here. It might freeze, and it would be a good thing to experiment which would be the best kind of hedges, for I believe one of the greatest expense to the farmer to-day is keeping up his fences, and the first thing I would recommend the Minister of Agriculture to do would be to buy a fine farm near this capital of Ottawa, as he did near the capital of Ontario, and fence that in with orange and other kinds of shrubbery and find out the best kind of fencing for the people of this country. In that matter alone, it would doubly pay for the cost of establishing the farm. Another thing is finding out the best kinds of seeds for permanent pastures. A man may buy half a dozen kinds of seeds for permanent pastures, but his neighbor three or four miles off would not be likely to know the result of his investigation; but in this case, the agricultural station will test the best kinds of seeds, how much it will cost per acre, and so on, and will send the result all over the Dominion, and we will be doubly paid in two or three matters of this kind for the expense. I am satisfied that this will be carried out. It is in the hands of a good, honorable gentleman, and in the hands of a good Government. The hon. gentleman says it will only cost about \$240,000, and from \$30,000 to \$35,000 a year to run these stations. In the Province of Ontario, we find it costs about \$20,000 or \$21,000 a year to run that institution over and above the revenue they derive. They buy eggs for the use of the farm, they buy their own butter, they buy their corn stocks to winter their cattle. They do not grow enough to feed their cattle, because they are not carrying it on a proper principle. We find the class of young men who are sent there to learn agriculture are young men whose parents would not trust them in a business of their own, who are wild and whose parents would not establish them in business, but send them to the Agricultural College to learn farming. The result is that not one out of a dozen have gone into farming after they leave there, and if they did, they were not successful. They were taught there that it cost \$1.75 to raise a bushel of wheat, and that they only got 80 cents for it, they cannot farm practically on that basis. I intend to support the Minister of Agriculture, and I am satisfied that this resolution will be carried by a large majority.

Mr. McMULLEN. I was rather pleased with the remarks of the hon. member for North Perth (Mr. Hesson) with regard to the model farm of the Province of Ontario. I think that model farm has been a decided success, and I was rather disappointed to hear the remarks of my hon. friend who has just sat down. I know, and I think he knows, that for the last number of years from several of the United States delegations have come to visit that farm, and on every occasion they have complimented the Province of Ontario on the very excellent model farm we have, and have complimented the managers upon the manner in which they have managed it. I am satisfied that this is true and I can prove by records in my possession that it is true. I do not think it is fair here to decry an institution of that kind, which is in its infancy, but unfortunately it has been vigorously opposed by the Opposition in the Local House who are the friends of the hon. gentleman who has just taken his seat. Notwithstanding that, it is progressing and continually improving, and it is an honor and a credit to the Province of Ontario and to the Government which has brought it to the position in which it is now. The hon. gentleman said it was highly desirable that the Government should take steps to secure to the farmers of the Dominion a cheaper kind of fencing. I remind him that a few nights ago, when the hon. Minister was delivering his Budget speech, we added an increased duty to wire,

Mr. WIGLE.

which is the very thing which would tend to cheapen fencing to the farmers of the Dominion. It is a pity that on that occasion he did not draw the Finance Minister's attention to the necessity of keeping the duty off wire. I believe my friend in front of me made a motion in behalf of the people of the North-West, urging that the increased duty should not be put on, as wire was the only thing they had to fence with there; but, notwithstanding that, the duty has gone on wire, and the people of the west will have to pay for it. I am very glad to know that something is to be done in the interest of the farmer. I am quite willing to support and assist in establishing these farms if they are to be a benefit to the farmers of the Dominion. Anything which will tend to improve their position shall have my assistance. But, in 1878, loud professions were made, when the National Policy was introduced, as to what was to be done for the farmers. They were to have a home market provided for their surplus products, they were all to be made rich, and the operation of that policy was to make them prosperous. They have found, to their sorrow, that it has not had the effect which was promised, and now, at the end of seven or eight years, the Government feel that, unless they can show the farmers on an approaching occasion that they are going to do something for them, they have been so disgusted with the results of the National Policy that the Government will not be able to whip them into line and make them vote again as they did in 1878. That is their object, and they are going to show that they are going to establish model farms and experiment on certain kinds of seeds. They are going to purchase a certain kind of tree, and a certain kind of fruit, and do everything else for them if they will only renew their confidence in another election. If the farmers will give the present Government their support once more, the Government are going to take them out of the mire and the troubles in which the National Policy has landed them. I shall be glad if the establishment of these farms do any good. For if there is a class in this Dominion, at the present time, that requires the serious attention of every man in this House, that requires aid and assistance, it is the farming community of this Dominion. They have undoubtedly suffered seriously in the past through loss of crops, through the increased price of everything they consume, and to-day they stand in a worse condition than they have for several years past. With regard to a remark that fell from my hon. friend who has just sat down. He thought he had made a strong point when he said that in order to please some Grits in Centre Wellington, a farm belonging to a certain Grit friend of the Government, was selected for the model farm. Well, Sir, that gentleman is not very well posted. He should remember that Mr. Stone, the man he referred to, is a strong Conservative, and always has been, and in the last election he was nominated in the Conservative interest. You find that the Ontario Government, when they want to acquire a property for Provincial purposes, do not ask whether the owner is a Conservative or a Grit, but if it suits their purpose they buy it and pay for it. But hon. gentlemen opposite, if they want a piece of property for Dominion purposes, generally try to hunt up a Tory that has got a property to sell, and buy it from him. I would just say in conclusion, that as far as I am concerned I shall give the proposition of the Minister of Agriculture my hearty support, and if it will do anything at all in the interest of the farming community, I shall be glad to assist it in any way I can, but I am afraid that it is a second edition of the humbug practised on the farmers in 1878.

Mr. COCHRANE. As I represent an agricultural constituency I feel disposed to say a few words on this subject, although pretty nearly all that can be said on it has been said. I am sorry that the hon. member for North Wellington (Mr. McMullen) cannot discuss any question without