

poses. A few shipments of the different breeds of cattle—Holstein and Shorthorn—have gone forward already. As far as I can learn, none of these shipments have netted a profit; on the average there has been a loss to the man who shipped them of from one pound to one pound ten shillings a head. At the present time the Ayrshire people have under consideration an extensive shipment of young two and three year old heifers, hoping they will meet the demand for that type of cattle in the Old Land.

At first we had some difficulty regarding the bulls shipped to Great Britain. At the Imperial Economic Conference we understood that bulls included in commercial live stock shipments would not be used for service, because the British stock men are getting very satisfactory results from their policy of pure bred sires. However, some of the British farmers who had bought these bulls for feeding, used the better ones in their own herds. This practice was objected to by the Old Country authorities, and we had no hesitation in assuring them that it was never understood by us that bulls bought at two and three cents a pound would be so used, but that only bulls shipped as pure bred sires were to be used in British herds. That assurance has cleared the atmosphere so far as our cattle shipments are concerned.

Another potential market for our cattle is China. Those of you who were at the Royal Winter Fair in 1931 may have noticed in one of the outer barns a collection of Ayrshire cattle to be shipped to China. Mr. Scott, who had charge of the shipment, has returned from China. He is very enthusiastic. He said those Ayrshires made a very favourable impression, and he is enthusiastic about the potentialities of this market. There were only thirty head in that shipment, and they were sold to the Ice and Cold Storage Company of Hong Kong. This company has 1,300 head of high class dairy cattle, and operates one of the most up-to-date dairies to be found anywhere in the civilized world. The company has been getting many of its cattle from the Old Country, and some from Australia. In Shanghai there are twenty-seven dairies, about ten of which own each over a hundred head of choice dairy cattle. The Culty Dairy owns seven hundred head of choice dairy cattle. During past years British Columbia has been supplying a considerable number of these dairy cattle. If our reports as to the reception of the Ayrshire shipment are correct, it is felt that the British Columbia stock men will not be able to meet the demand. At the present time the Ayrshire people are getting together another shipment in an effort to confirm the good impression created by their first shipment.

These, we believe, are the chief outlets for our cattle. The Chinese are particularly pleased that our dairy cattle purchased by them have more than lived up to their record of performance, and that they are so healthy. In the health of our live stock and the accuracy of our records of production we take second place to no country; in fact, we think we stand higher even than the Old Country. That purchasers of our dairy cattle find those cattle are in every respect as we have represented them, is an invaluable asset to us in getting a wider market.

As no doubt you gentlemen are aware, the Chinese eat much more pork than beef. Their pigs are of a very inferior type, and they have been importing odd shipments of breeding stock. We hope to have them become very much interested in getting some of our best swine.

I do not know, Mr. Chairman, that I can add anything further to these few rambling remarks.

The CHAIRMAN: You have given us some very useful information, Mr. Weir. Perhaps some members of the Committee would like to ask the minister a few questions arising out of his statement.

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: Mr. Weir, have you ever thought of shipping chilled beef to the Old Country?