

Abolished the Quarantine.

The quarantine of ninety days upon all cattle entering the United States from Canada before 1897 practically prohibited any export to that country. The Tories had deplored this, but said nothing could be done.

Hon. Sydney Fisher, the Minister of Agriculture, took a trip to Washington, and in a week swept away this quarantine obstruction. The immediate result was an increase in the export of Canadian cattle to the United States. In the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1896, we exported to them 1,645 head, valued at \$8,870. For the next six months, to December 31st, the export was 577 head, at \$9.717. The abolition of the quarantine took effect one month afterwards, on February 1st. For the six months ending June 30th, 1897, after the abolition had been effective for five months, we exported 35,421 head, valued at \$499,421. The fiscal year, ended 30th June, 1898, our export was 87,905 head, valued at \$1,239,448, the price in the latter year being \$14 per head against \$5.39 in 1896, an increase in price of \$8.61 per head. The exports, during the seven years previous to the abolition, 1890--1896, amounted to \$195,814; during the following seven years, ending June 30th, 1903, they totalled \$6,419,385.

In the distribution of agricultural knowledge, the first steps were taken and the foundations laid on which, in the last four years, immense strides have been made which will be detailed in succeeding pages.

Cool Curing of Cheese.

During the last few years much reckless criticism of the Minister of Agriculture has been indulged in. An abundant opportunity for formal indictment was afforded during the last session of Parliament, but only two attacks were made; one by Mr. Taylor, the Tory member for Leeds and Grenville, the chief whip of the Opposition, on July the 27th; the other by Mr. E. D. Smith, M. P. for Wentworth, on July 29th.

It may be fairly inferred that, with the exception of the points brought out in these attacks, the Opposition have no complaints to make to the farmers of Canada against the Laurier Government.

Mr. Taylor's criticism was based on the expenditure for the establishment of illustration cool curing stations for cheese making.

Canadian cheese has always been sold on the English market at from one to three cents a pound less than the best Old Country cheddar. The experts of the Agricultural Department have been for years studying the reasons for this, and were convinced that the curing of Canadian cheese in varying and high temperature was one of the chief causes. Small experiments were carried