

must bring it around by Quebec; if from Boston, we have to go around by Sarnia. This is extremely inconvenient; in fact, it practically prohibits importation to our Provinces. We earnestly desire that quarantine stations should be established at Halifax, and at Yarmouth also, and that the staff should be held available to visit localities where there is any doubt as to the existence of infectious diseases, and take the necessary steps to prevent its ravages. It is desirable that the veterinary staff should be composed of men of recognized ability, and that they should be made available also to enable us to import cattle direct.

*By the Chairman :*

Q. Is there in your neighbourhood sufficient standing timber to supply shade, fuel and other domestic wants?—So far there is no deficiency. We still export lumber largely.

Q. Have any steps been taken to maintain this supply, or to replant where it has failed?—No steps have been taken in the direction of replanting, but efforts are made to prevent the destruction of forests by carelessly setting them on fire. We have suffered very much from the burning of our forests.

Q. What do you think of the establishment of a Central Bureau here, in Ottawa? I think it would be of great value, but I would urge strongly, as I have done already, that it should be carried on in connection with local branches, so that the proposals in reference to the employment of a public analyst, entomologist and veterinary inspector, and the establishment of an experimental farm or garden, could be the better considered and carried out. I think the Central Bureau would be of very great value, but it should have branches to do the work you desire to aim at.

Q. Do you not think that the branches should be established by the Local Governments?—The great difficulty is the lack of funds on the part of the local authorities to carry out such a work. I have been pressing upon our Provincial Government to do something in this direction, but they find a difficulty in the question of means.

Q. Would the dissemination of handbooks and reports containing the data thus collected, on culture, stock-raising, dairying, poultry keeping, &c., have a beneficial effect?—I should say, yes; most decidedly; provided the information afforded, had consideration to local circumstances, and did not attempt to prescribe what was desirable for all localities from experience obtained in any one only.

*By the Chairman :*

Have you studied the working of the Central Bureau at Washington?—I have not.

Q. Would you recommend the formation of a section devoted to agricultural statistics?—I think it would be of very great advantage, in keeping our farmers informed when to sell and when to hold; would check them from over-producing particular crops and stock, and glutting the market; and would keep prices steady, and hinder fluctuation and speculation. It would enable them to know how best to dispose of their produce. As an illustration, the farmer would always be in a position to feed his grain crops when prices are abnormally low, and the statistical returns would inform him if the fall was temporary or from local causes, and whether or not it was likely to remain steady throughout the year.

Q. Would the issue of monthly bulletins and abstracts, containing such information, be of sufficient advantage to warrant their publication?—I think it would complete the services rendered by a statistical bureau.

Have you any further suggestions to offer?—No; I think the questions that have been asked have covered the ground pretty completely.

*By Mr. Landry (Montmagny) :*

Is there any agricultural industry in your Province in operation?—We have a cheese factory, and a large condensed milk factory.

Is there not a starch factory?—No; I do not think there is a starch factory in the Province in operation. We have some meat canning establishments which are in operation in Cape Breton, and I know they are canning fruit in the Annapolis valley, and also corn and tomatoes, but it has only lately commenced, and it has not attained to very large dimensions as yet.