

suggestion of the committee on Agriculture, but also the suggestions made by the various dairy and creamery associations throughout the province of Ontario with regard to this very same subject. My hon. friend, I am sure, does not doubt me, otherwise I could read the resolutions carried at the Central Farmer's Institute, and the Creameries Association, and at the last meeting of the Farmer's Institute, held on 5th March, at Finch, Ontario, all of which asked the Government to pursue this course or complimented them upon the course which had been pursued with regard to this industry. Now, as regards what has been the effect, the shippers in Montreal, have to-day more inquiries for Canadian butter than they have had before in the history of the industry for a great number of years. Messrs. Clements & Son, of Manchester, have written, with regard to this very subject:

We have received delivery of 215 packages of butter ex "Ottoman." Most of this shipment is fresher than last, and altogether superior, which proves to us that if care is taken with details at your end, and the goods shipped absolutely as soon as made, you need not fear what quantity you send. They will certainly suit this market better than Australian; but, of course, it will take some time to get them known * * We have had several of the best buyers in Lancashire examining them, and the general opinion is you could run the Danes very hard in a year or so.

I think, Sir, that that statement of facts from a leading butter dealer in the city of Manchester, is a compliment to the Government as to the course it has pursued in this matter.

Mr. CASEY. What did it sell for this last fall?

Mr. MONTAGUE. From 90 shillings to 70 shillings for 112 pounds, that is speaking generally, was the price secured in Great Britain for these shipments. I have not the exact data by me, because the last returns have not been received. I can only say that I am somewhat surprised that the attacks upon this vote should come from a farmer. It appears to me that my hon. friend has not exhibited that great kindness for the farmers' interests that he has expressed sometimes in this House. Now, as to the future. The Government do not intend to drop the dairying industry; they intend to encourage it in every possible way. They intend to continue the services of the Dairy Commissioner and his staff, who are pushing forward education in regard to this matter of better methods of making and shipping dairy products. They have made a start in the British market with this butter, and what they intend to do in the future is to supply cold storage for the purpose of placing Canadian butter in the best possible condition upon the British market. I may say more to the hon. gentleman, although the subject will come up again on the main Estimates, that the Department of Agriculture have already made arrangements with the Grand

Trunk Railway and the Canadian Pacific Railway, and are now making arrangements with the Intercolonial Railway, for the purpose of providing cold storage from the creameries to the port of Montreal. But first let me add that, in purchasing this creamery butter during the past year, the Government are not only establishing a market for creamery butter in Great Britain, but they were relieving the congested markets in Canadian cities, and were consequently improving the price as well of the dairy butter which is produced by the farmers throughout the country. Not only have the Government made arrangements with the railways mentioned, but they are also making arrangements for inspection at Montreal; and they have made arrangements with the steamship companies for providing cold storage across the Atlantic. They have also made arrangements for cold storage in three ports of Great Britain, London, Liverpool and Glasgow. The purpose of the Government is to provide opportunities of cold storage and to get the railways to put on refrigerator cars. The creameries which export this butter—because in future the Government do not intend to buy butter—

Mr. CASEY. Hear, hear.

Mr. MONTAGUE.—Will my hon. friend allow me to continue. Having started a market in Great Britain by purchasing this butter and placing it there, and, as I have shown by the extract, given it a character in Great Britain, the creameries which export the butter, will be required to pay the ordinary rates of freight, as well as the ordinary rates of storage at different points. But the Government, out of the vote which is asked for, will pay the extra expense of the cold storage upon the cars, as well as at storage points. I think that covers pretty well the question of what the Government intend to do. As to the transportation across the Atlantic, they will have, I think, a semi-monthly service, beginning with the third week in June, and continuing all through the season. They are making arrangements with the Allan Line by which they, the Government, are to fit up boats themselves at Montreal, affording excellent accommodation. This will be done out of the vote asked for in the main Estimates. Nine boats are being enlarged for that purpose, and the only expense to the Government will be the extra expense for cold storage, the freight being paid for by those who have shipped the butter. As I have said, we do not continue to purchase the butter, but do provide cold storage for the purpose of putting that butter in the very best possible shape upon the British market. The vote asked for in the main Estimates will supply facilities for putting upon the British market 2,000,000 pounds of Canadian butter during the season. If hon. gentlemen will think over the matter carefully they will see that the Government is pursuing a very wise and helpful course towards the