

removed. I said to them: If you desire to keep our cattle out pass a law to keep them out; keep your own course with regard to your own fiscal matters, with regard to your productions; we do the same with regard to ours, and we are perfectly content that you should do the same with yours; but do not, on the pretence that our cattle are diseased, keep them out for any such purpose. I am not at liberty to make any announcement on the subject today beyond this, that the representations which we made were received as favourably as we could have expected by the head of the Department of Agriculture, Mr. Prothero. I must allude, in that connection, to the great service which was rendered in this matter by my colleague, Mr. Rogers, who, at my request, took the subject up immediately on his arrival in Great Britain. He was indefatigable in carrying out the purpose that we had at heart; he brought it up in the Conference, argued it with great earnestness and ability, and eventually succeeded in having the Minister of Agriculture come to the Conference for the purpose of a frank discussion of the whole question. After that discussion had taken place we received the very favourable indication to which I have already alluded.

In addition to the work of the Imperial War Cabinet and the Imperial War Conference, we were very actively engaged in many other matters relating to the war. There were all conceivable questions with regard to its prosecution, to which I have already alluded. We had to take up the question of naval protection during the war, we had to take up many questions with regard to the Canadian Expeditionary Force, with regard to the provision of shipping, food supply, the restriction of imports, and a score of other questions which arose from time to time and which kept us most actively engaged. I believe that there was some suspicion in this country that the oversea Ministers were occupying their time in enjoying themselves, and were not very actively engaged. I have been accustomed to reasonably hard work all my life, but I venture to say to the members of this House and to the people of this country that I never worked more incessantly or more actively during any like period than I did during the period I was in England. That, I think, is equally true of my colleagues. Mr. Rogers attended the meetings of the Empire Land Settlement Committee, to which not only he, but representatives of all the provinces of Canada were appointed while we were in London. He took up also questions relating to the purchase of Canadian wheat and cheese, the provision of dry docks in Canada, and other important subjects, and in connection with many good progress was made.

Mr. Hazen was in continual conference with the Admiralty