

Will you be kind enough to send me a formal letter giving me a similar commitment on behalf of your government, in order that the matter may be definitely concluded between us.

Yours faithfully,
R. Weir.

The following is the answer received from the Right Hon. Sir John Gilmour:

Imperial Economic Conference, 1932
United Kingdom Delegation,
Parliament Buildings,
Ottawa, 19th August, 1932.

My Dear Weir,—I have had before me the enclosed copy of a report on the discussions which have been taking place during the last few days between your advisers and mine on the importation of Canadian store cattle into the United Kingdom and the importation of United Kingdom pedigree stock into Canada.

I am glad that these matters have now been discussed so thoroughly and that an agreement has been reached as to what is required. The proposals set out in the memorandum meet with my general approval, and it is on the basis of this memorandum that, in the draft formal agreement between the United Kingdom government and the government of Canada, we undertake on our part to invite parliament to pass the necessary legislation and you on your part to revise the existing restrictions.

Yours sincerely,
John Gilmour.

The Hon. Robert Weir, M.P.

The committee will note the points covered in this correspondence, but should there be any further questions I shall be pleased to answer them.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): Is that regulation now in effect?

Mr. STEVENS: Our information is that it is now in effect. I suggest that it may save the time of the committee if in conjunction with article 5 we take article 18, which refers to the pedigreed stock. We may take the two as being discussed together.

Mr. CHAIRMAN (Mr. MacDonald, Cape Breton): Is it the wish of the committee that we consider article 18 in conjunction with article 5?

Some hon. MEMBERS: Carried.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. MacDonald, Cape Breton): Article 18 reads:

His Majesty's government in Canada undertake to modify the existing regulations governing the importation of pedigree stock from the United Kingdom into Canada in a manner already agreed upon in principle between themselves and His Majesty's government in the United Kingdom.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: The minister thought last Thursday that we remained too long on article 4. As far as I am concerned I am not going to keep him or the committee very long on article 5, because every restriction he can

remove, especially during these times, from this, and, indeed, any kind of trade, is all to the good, provided, of course, you do not open up too many dangers in the way of contagious diseases or anything of the kind, although I do not think that has been done in this case. So I am glad to see the removal of these little worrying restrictions such as the three day quarantining at point of shipment and the necessity of branding the cattle on the right or left jaw or the right or left ear. These were all thought to be necessary at one time because our friends on the other side of the water were not very sure whether our cattle were free from disease or not. They had got it into their heads that our cattle at one time had either foot and mouth disease or pleuropneumonia. Canada is one of the only two cattle countries in the world that have had neither of these diseases. The people on the other side have discovered that and they are now ready to throw off these restrictions. It is the logical thing to do. New Zealand is the only other country that has not had these plagues. Restriction of trade of any kind, whether it be in cattle or anything else, should be removed if possible.

May I, however, sound a note of warning. The Minister of Agriculture is not present, but no doubt my hon. friend will tell him what I say. As regards the three new conditions in connection with quarantine, the first of which is the acceptance of the quarantine station at London, that is a proper place in which to quarantine animals for fourteen days prior to shipment. Four years ago that quarantine station was not satisfactory to Canada as a station from which cattle could in safety be shipped to this country and we did not recognize it as such. Now, however, both the United States and Canada recognize it as being all right. There is only one possible objection, that is, if all shippers recognize it and use it as such, it will become a little bit too small, but when that day arrives it can easily be extended. As to these regulations that now prevail with regard to quarantine, reducing the time from thirty to fourteen days in Canada and also reducing the time on the other side, in fact making it a condition that the cattle shall go through the quarantine station at London, if these are lived up to, possibly the safeguards will be sufficient. But if there is the least tendency to slacken a little more before conditions warrant—and there is always a tendency, a pressure to make the restrictions a little bit easier, to slide the cattle through and to reduce the delay in shipment and consequently the expense—if this is done, it is always done at the cost of safety. When one considers that our reputation of