

Societies, that opinions of such societies may be obtained, and that the replies be forwarded to the Clerk of the House on or before 1st day of January, 1875.

The names of such municipal or agricultural officials to be obtained by the Clerk of the Select Committee, or by circular, asking for such information, addressed to Members of this House and of the Senate, as well as otherwise.

The questions to be answered are as follows, being much the same as those sent out by the late Committee, viz:—

1. Do you think the duties imposed on foreign produce in April, 1870, and repealed in March, 1871, acted beneficially or otherwise?

2. Is it in the interest of the Dominion that we should continue to admit American produce free, while Canadian produce exported over the border has so heavy a tax levied on it?

3. What duties, if any, would you impose on flour and various grains and other foreign farm products; or what guiding rule as to such imposition of duties would you advise?

4. What effect has the free admission of Indian corn on price of coarse grains in your section of country?

5. Do you advise legislation with a view to establishing and promoting in Canada the cultivation of sugar beet, and the manufacture of sugar therefrom; also cultivation of tobacco and flax? And what legislation would best conduce to the end in view?

6. From what sections of country in Canada or the United States do you obtain your supplies of grain, and what is your average quantity received annually from each country, and for what purposes used?

7. What manufactures do you think co-operate most intimately with agriculture.

8. Where is the most of your flour or meal actually consumed, and what market is it most to your advantage to sell in, the home market of our Dominion, the British or the American market?

9. Do many of the sons and daughters of farmers in your locality, whose taste or physical capacity lead them to desire other employment than farming, seek employment in the United States? If so, what remedy would you advise?

10. Does the free importation of American flour, without reciprocity, put you at a disadvantage as compared with American competitors? and if so, state reasons.

11. Have you found grinding in bond convenient and practicable and fair to all parties concerned, and would you recommend it in case of the imposition of a duty on foreign wheat?

12. As *ad valorem* duty 20 per cent. imposed in the United States on flour, against the fixed specific duty of 20 per cent per bushel on wheat, generally operates as a discriminatory tariff against the Canadian miller, would the establishment of discriminatory duties by the Parliament of Canada, in your opinion, be advisable?

All which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. T. OXTON,
Chairman.

Committee Room,
Wednesday, 13th May, 1874.