

So far the disease in Illinois appears to be confined to Jersey herds ; although there was a rumour of a herd of short horns being affected in Peoria County, but Dr. Paaren had no authentic information as to the correctness of the report.

The disease is evidently due to the direct traffic in Jersey cattle from east to west. I am informed by Mr. Butler, veterinary surgeon, of Piqua, Ohio, that he believes the animals that affected Dyes' herd, and some of them were sent on to Epler's (before disease was noticed in Dyes' herd), were purchased at a Jersey sale in New York or Philadelphia.

From inquiries made at the Chicago Stock Yards, I find the traffic from the Eastern States, where contagious pleuro has existed so long, is very limited, but there is a very large traffic in calves from Ohio, Michigan, Western New York, and Pennsylvania.

Breeders of stock fully recognise the danger of the spread of this insidious disease, and some of them are urging active measures for stamping it out.

Dr. Paaren, by order of the Governor of Illinois, has quarantined all herds where disease has appeared, and is slaughtering all affected animals. It is necessary to appraise all animals before being destroyed.

The amount of money in the fund for contagious diseases in Illinois is very small, and not sufficient to compensate owners, and in consequence thereof, I fear the stamping out process, viz., slaughtering all diseased animals, and all animals that have been in contact with the diseased ones, the proper course to pursue will not be carried out with the expedition demanded.

The fault is with the State government, and not with their efficient veterinarian.

National and State interests appear to conflict with each other.

In view of the disease at present being confined to Jersey cattle their transport through the States will be restricted.

As to importation of Jersey cattle from the United States into Canada, I think it would be advisable not to bring any into quarantine for a short time at least. It may not be necessary to pass an Order in Council, as the importers of Jerseys are so few in this country that they could be easily notified of the desirability of not trafficking in Jerseys until the disease is got rid of among these cattle in the States.

If, unfortunately, an animal affected with contagious pleuro got into quarantine, such an assurance might compel the slaughtering of quite a number of other animals.

There are not many owners of Jerseys in Canada that, in the meantime, would like to risk what only might be an imaginary injury to their stock by attempting to import animals from any infected district.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Andrew Smith.*

The Honourable J. H. Pope,
Minister of Agriculture, Ottawa.
