

men receive good advantages in education, but not in subjects which are directly of value to agriculture, and they go into over-stocked professions, and leave the country. We require, first, to fit them to remain at home and follow agriculture. For I conceive the native born is the best inhabitant a country can have.

Next, we want immigration of men of moderate capital. Farm property is exceptionally low and plentiful in the market, but, unfortunately, the capabilities of our Province are not well known in Europe, and hence intending immigrants do not come to us. We want men of some capital, as machinery is now a necessity, and manual labor cannot compete with it. Hence, those who attempt cultivation without machinery become discouraged and leave the country.

Q. What deficiencies have come under your notice in the cultivation of cereals, cultivation of roots and grasses, raising of stock and wool growing, production of butter and cheese, culture of fruit, and the ordinary use of fertilizers?

A. I do not quite understand whether you wish me to say what results have attended the cultivation of these crops in our Province.

Q. What defects have come under your notice—how is the system of agriculture defective in the cultivation of cereals?

A. I think I have covered that question pretty well in my first answer. I could, of course, tell you what we are doing in the cultivation of the various crops, but I do not think that would be an actual answer to your question.

Q. Would the importation of seed from foreign countries benefit our farmers?

A. We are doing all we can to improve our seeds by this plan, but it has to be done by private parties, and it is a matter of difficulty and expense to our farmers.

*By Mr. Bain.*

Q. Have you seedsmen who go largely into that line?

A. No, they do very little in importing themselves. We deal with Ontario seedsmen, and we find it more convenient to get our supply in this way, because we have the advantage of dealing with importers who operate on a larger scale.

Q. I suppose the field with you is not very large for the seed business?

A. No, not large. It is supplied very largely with foreign seeds through Ontario seedsmen.

Q. What is your experience with Ontario seeds? How does the change of climate and soil operate?

A. Very satisfactorily.

*By Mr. Massue.*

Q. Do you grow fall wheat?

A. I am experimenting with fall wheat. It has been tried and has been pronounced a failure, on account of our changeable winters. For instance, this winter we had no snow but constant frosts and changes until about the 1st of March. The ground has not been covered with snow at all. I have 25 acres of fall grain—2 acres of wheat and 23 acres of rye—and I am afraid I shall loose it all. I had some Ontario wheat—spring wheat—last year, and it was a very fine crop. It yielded 25 bushels to the acre.

*By Mr. Bain.*

Q. I suppose your changeable winters cause all the trouble in fall wheat growing.

A. It kills it sometimes. We could have very fine crops but for that.

*By the Chairman.*

Q. Would a general system of inspection and branding be likely to enhance the value of our butter and cheese in the home and foreign markets?

A. Of the sales of butter and cheese I have really no personal experience, but undoubtedly buyers would feel greater security in purchasing an inspected article, and in this way sales would be more satisfactory. Makers, also, would have a standard established which would stimulate them to aim at manufacturing an article of first quality.

*By Mr. Bain.*

Q. Has the factory system grown up with you?

A. Cheese factories have, but not butter. I do not think there is a butter factory in the Province.

Q. Are there no creameries?

A. There are no creameries, but the people of Colchester have gone into a large milk condensing business, which has absorbed the milk of the district to such an extent that it has rather paralyzed one or two cheese factories. They expect to handle this year about 8 tons of milk per day.

Q. I suppose the trouble is that you can give the farmers a higher price for their milk for the condensing process?

A. There is not much difference in the price paid for the milk, but the same men who were formerly engaged in the cheese business have turned their attention to this work of milk condensing. We propose to turn into cheese all the milk above what we can profitably condense. I think it is pretty well established that condensed milk offers us a better market. Cheese is uncertain: if you have to keep it on hand for any considerable length of time it deteriorates. We had to hold it over one year, and that discouraged us so much that we have turned our attention to condensed milk, for which we think we can get a steady continuous market, and also an article of merchandize that we can hold, if we find it desirable so to do.

*By the Chairman.*

Q. Would the importation of fruit tree scions and plants from Russia and other countries under climatic conditions similar to those of Canada, be of service to our fruit growers?

A. Our fruit growers are now experimenting with such imported species, and they expect good results from it.

*By Mr. Bain.*

Q. Do you know what points they have been imported from?

A. I do not. I am not much of a fruit grower myself, but I have put this question to several fruit growers and their answer is too short. They only say they are engaged in the work of importing and experimenting, but they do not say from what point they bring the new specimens.

*By the Chairman.*

Q. Would the appointment of a public analyst, to whom samples of soil and of home manufactured and imported fertilizers might be submitted, prove of advantage to our farmers?

A. Yes, if he was within reach, so that the samples might be sent him and information be promptly furnished in regard to them.

Q. What do you think of establishing an experimental farm or garden, where varieties of foreign grain, fruit trees and fertilizers might be tested, and whence such seeds, plants, etc., might be distributed throughout the Dominion, be advisable?

A. The climate conditions are so dissimilar that experiments made in the drier atmosphere and steady winter of Ontario would be of comparatively small value to the Lower Provinces, but experiments conducted where the conditions of season, temperature and rainfall are similar to those encountered by our farmers would be of very great value. Our farmers are now more or less engaged in experiments, but the labour is largely thrown away, as they have not the scientific knowledge to work out these satisfactorily, and they often arrive at wrong conclusions. But if an experimental farm was established in the neighborhood they could readily join in conducting these experiments, receiving instructions from the superintendent of the station as to the necessary conditions and points to which they should give attention, and these simultaneous experiments would be of more value than if conducted singly. It is very desirable that branch stations should be established. Our Dominion is very large, and the climate conditions are very dissimilar, so that a central station without the branches, would not bring all the benefits we desire. It would, without doubt, confer great advantages, but it should be supplemented by branch stations.