

markets for the farmers and can aid them in getting their produce to those markets as cheaply and in as good condition as possible; and, by proper regulation of the tariff, it can regulate to some extent the prices of articles which the farmer consumes. Now, I go back to the period between 1874 and 1878. I do not find any experimental farms in Canada. I do not find any experiments being made for the benefit of the farmer at the public expense. I do not find dairy commissioners at work or any interest taken on either branch of the dairying industry. But when I come to 1879 and thence onward, I find seed testing being carried on at experimental farms established by the Conservative party; I find seed being distributed in every portion of the country for the benefit of the farmers; I find manures being tested at the experimental farms for the benefit of the farmer; I find noxious weeds and insects being investigated, and the best means of limiting these evils developed at the experimental farm. I find the dairy industry being encouraged. I find the government establishing creameries, managing these creameries for the farmers, and marketing their products. All this goes on up to 1896. And I find no advance has taken place in these things from 1896 to the present year. The hon. gentleman continues the work, just as we had engaged in it long before he became Minister of Agriculture. Now, the Minister of Agriculture has been making some speeches in which he has taken credit for the relief of the depression in Canada by reason of the splendid condition of the dairying industry and of the facilities for cold storage—to which I shall refer in a moment. Now, I have here the report of the Minister of Agriculture published in 1897 and signed by himself. And what does that report deal with? It deals with the dairy industry in this country and shows what the government, the Conservative government, remember, has done for that industry. It takes one of the provinces, for instance, and I take that because it is a very good sample of the Dominion, because it is small and compact and you can grasp the figures in a moment, though what is true of the work which the Conservative party did for Prince Edward Island is true to a greater or lesser extent of what we did in every province, and especially the North-west and Manitoba. And not only do I take it for that reason, but I take it because it was virgin soil when we began in 1892, and therefore you can measure exactly what effect was produced. Here is what the report of 1897, signed by Sydney A. Fisher, says—and of course, the report refers to the work which the previous administration had done:

In Prince Edward Island the work of the dairying service was continued during 1896, but a less number of factories were managed by the agricultural and dairy commissioner than in 1895. In 1892 there was only one dairy station on the

island. The building was put up by a joint stock company of farmers at New Perth. The Dominion government loaned the machinery to fit up that one factory on Prince Edward Island. All the cheese factories and creameries erected and equipped there since have been built and fitted up at the expense of joint stock companies of the farmers themselves. In 1893, eleven dairy stations were managed by the dairy commissioner. The farmers supplied the milk; a charge of 1½ cents per pound was made for manufacturing the cheese and marketing the same. After the cheese was sold, the proceeds, minus the manufacturing charge, were distributed to the patrons according to the quantity of milk which they furnished. In 1894 there were sixteen cheese factories and two creameries on the island; they were managed on similar terms. In 1895 there were twenty-eight cheese factories and two creameries, and they were managed on similar terms.

In other words, Sir, we, the Conservative party, when it administered the Department of Agriculture, found Prince Edward Island in 1892 without a dairy industry. We left it with 28 factories for cheese-making and two creameries in 1896, and exporting about \$60,000 worth of dairy products to the markets of the world. That is a result of which we, Sir, are proud, and have reason to be proud. I ask my hon. friend the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to deny the wonderful change we worked in the prosperity of that Island. Now, while I am touching on this matter—and I am sincerely regretful that the Minister of Agriculture is not present—I cannot allow a matter to escape me which has been submitted in the report of 1897. It is in regard to the 'Patent Record,' which is published for the Department of Agriculture. I read in this report of 1897, the following:

A change has been made in the manner of publishing the 'Patent Record,' which is now printed at the Government Printing Bureau, whereby the work is better and more economically done, the type, paper and illustrations being much superior to what they formerly were.

And the report adds, Sir, that a large saving is being effected. Now this is in the report signed by the Minister of Agriculture himself, and I submit to the House that what it is intended that the people of the country should think is that that change was made under the administration of the present Minister of Agriculture. The report is of 1897, and the change is mentioned without giving any dates. He simply says a change has been made, and so forth, and thereby great economies have been practised. Well, Sir, I pick up the report of the public printing and stationery for 1898, and I find there a report made by the Queen's Printer, who deals with this very subject of the change in the method of printing the Patent Record. This is what he says:

The work was taken into the Printing Bureau first in 1892.

The report of the Minister of Agriculture in 1897, says: A change has been made in the printing of the Patent Record, we have taken