

of the wool-growers who have asked me to write to you. There would have been many others, had we had time to have seen them.

Yours truly,

D. H. ANDREWS.

Then follow the names I have already given. Mr. Johnson was one of those who called my attention to this matter some four years ago. He has published a communication to one of the members from Alberta, in one of the western papers, in which he made precisely the same estimate made by the writer of this letter. He pointed to the same source of loss and emphasized the fact that while scab in sheep so affected might appear at once, it also might appear only in fifteen days. So that you see, Mr. Speaker, the wool-growers and sheep-owners in the west are alarmed at what has taken place, and there is a general impression that the Minister of Agriculture was rather precipitate in his action.

There are others who feel equally alarmed with regard to cattle. They feel that our ranches will be overrun by American cattle. I believe that in Western Assiniboia there is no difference of opinion at all on this subject, but I am told that west of Western Assiniboia there is some little difference of opinion. For instance, I am told that some persons connected with the Corcoran ranch have said that the Chicago market is as good for them as the Montreal market. I do not know whether they go so far as to say that the quarantine was of no use, but they have expressed themselves as I have just stated. I am told, however, that that feeling is not general even there. I can say for Western Assiniboia, at any rate, that any cattlemen who have approached or written me on that subject have emphatically condemned the new regulations. What they say is that their ranches will be overrun, and that our ranches are valuable, whereas the Americans' are not, but are eaten off and daily becoming worse. There cannot, I think, be any doubt that our ranches are in excellent condition, and that the action of the Americans in heading their cattle at the beginning of every winter, on to the boundary line at Wood Mountain and Willow Bunch or still further west, shows what value they attach to our ranches as winter ranches for their cattle.

There is a communication to which my attention has been called, signed "Canada for the Canadians," which was sent to the Medicine Hat "News," and appears in that paper of 25th February, 1897, and just as some of those who signed the letter which I read to the House are strong supporters of this Government, I may say that the gentleman who writes this letter is an avowed supporter of it. He expresses belief that we have now a Government in power who will hear appeals of this nature, and, under such circumstances I feel still more confident in bringing his opinion before the House. This

Mr. DAVIN.

writer in the Medicine Hat "News" asks: What, under the existing condition of things, is to become of the stock-raiser and farmer in the great North-west who is just beginning to realize the profit there is in stock-raising in Manitoba, Assiniboia and Alberta, with "its vastitude and ranges," of which there is not the like on the continent of America? And right well, he goes on to say, do the Montana stockmen, as well as the stockmen of Dakota, Wyoming, Idaho and all the western grazing states know it. For many years they have looked on with jealous eye, but could not partake of the fruits which were and should be henceforth protected for the young and enterprising Canadian cattlemen. He goes on to say:

It is a well-known fact that the North-west ranges are the best in quantity and quality that are in the west to-day. It is also well known that the ranges of Montana, Dakota, Idaho, Wyoming, &c., are a thing of the past.

He says that the American ranchmen are rejoicing at the change and are laughing at the idea, and saying: What a snap it is for us, and he concludes by deploring the imminence of the inroad of American cattle into our valuable ranches. Again, he asks:

Are the Canadians who are just commencing the stock-raising industry, to be crushed out and made to return whence they came, and give all to the Yankee across the line, and his immense herds to feed and grow rich on the fat of our land? These same Yankees made their beginning in the stock-raising industry years ago, the same as our young Canadians are doing to-day, but time has allowed the Yankee to accumulate his thousands.

More than once, in this connection, he emphasizes the fear that the comparatively poor Canadian stockmen will be crushed out by the rich Yankee stockmen. He says:

Are the American stockmen going to crush out our young industry? The Canadian stockmen will need all the range this country has in a very short time, and so why should the American stockmen be privileged to come into our country and lease large tracts of territory for their immense herds, for the nominal sum of one cent per acre? These herds are sure to bring disease with them. They will eat out the range, leaving it as bare as the desert. How is the young stockman to compete with this foreign capital, literally bleeding the country? It will crush the young stockmen out for ever, unless he can procure some protection from the Government.

Here again is what he says, and I call the attention of the Government especially to it:

Although we believe in free trade to a certain extent, we do not believe in giving the already equipped and established Yankee stockmen the pasture that is intended for our Canadian citizens. Give the Canadian stockmen a chance, and in one-half the time it took the American cattlemen to accumulate what they have, our Canadians will double, as they have in every branch of business since confederation.

Then he says, as I told the House at the