

and a magnificent industry has sprung up in the province. In the North-west the same movement was inaugurated, and I am happy to say is being carried on under the present administration. It was also determined by the late Minister of Agriculture and the late administration, to inaugurate a cold storage movement in connection with the dairy industry, in fact as a corollary to it, in order that perishable products could be got to the European market in the best possible form, and the present government very properly took up that movement just where it was left by the late administration and carried it on. I give them credit for what they have done in that regard, although I am not prepared to admit the very sweeping and inaccurate statement made by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries in England in one of his speeches there, when he claimed that the dairy movement and the cold storage movement in Canada was entirely due to the exertions of the present administration, and that it was an evidence of the great and sincere desire they felt for promoting commercial intercourse between the Dominion of Canada and Great Britain. When this measure was before parliament last year I took the liberty of pointing out to my hon. friend the Secretary of State that no provision appeared to be made in that bill by which the benefits of cold storage would extend to the province from which I come, and I contend that, in proportion to its size, there is no province of Canada whose industries stand more in need of the advantage which cold storage would give than does the province of Prince Edward Island. I noticed in the bill that was submitted at the very end of the last session provision was made to ratify some contracts which, after they were produced, were found to apply wholly and entirely to the port of Montreal. It came as a matter of course that the great commercial metropolis of Canada should be first in consideration in a matter of this kind. That was, of course, conceded on all sides, but it was promised, and promised most emphatically, in the other branch of parliament and also by members of the government in correspondence and in speeches made on the subject, that Prince Edward Island was to participate in the benefits arising from the cold storage system. A cold storage building was required at the port of Charlot-

tetown. One provision in that bill was that a bonus should be given for cold storage premises in various points, and Charlottetown was named as one of those points where encouragement would be given, sufficient, I admit, for the size of the country that would be served by the cold storage system.

A guarantee dividend of five per cent was proposed to be given to these cold storage premises if they were brought into existence by private enterprise. Now, the people of the province took the matter up on the encouragement that was proposed to be given in the bill and nearly, if not altogether, a sufficient amount of capital was subscribed, and the balance was ready to be subscribed at any moment when the government would carry out their promise with regard to giving a cold storage service on steamers. But my hon. friend will remember, I think, that I pointed out to him last year that the capital which was subscribed for these cold storage premises was contingent upon a steam service being maintained, for it is well known that cold storage for these perishable products is no use whatever unless connected with a steam service to carry the product away, because goods that are preserved in cold storage for any considerable time, or at all, are even more perishable than otherwise they would be when exposed to the ordinary conditions when being carried to market, and on that account the people of Prince Edward Island relied upon the government providing cold storage on board steamers either to connect with Halifax or direct from the port of Charlottetown. I made objection when the matter was before the House last year because there was no provision made for Charlottetown, and my hon. friend frankly said:

That might be done this year and next, or we might get a steamer direct. I spoke to the Minister about it, and I said that Prince Edward Island would be able to send to market in proportion to population a much larger quantity of products than any other part of Canada. He was most anxious about it because he takes a very great personal interest in it wholly apart from the political situation, and is most anxious to have it carried out.

Now, I am sorry to say that from that time forward nothing has been done. A deputation from the Charlottetown Board of Trade came to Ottawa and is now in Ottawa, to push this matter, among others. After putting my notice on the order paper, I learned from the papers that this deputation was coming here, and I let it stand until