

LEGISLATION FOR AGRICULTURE AT OTTAWA

(Continued from page 6)
at the international exhibition at Ghent, Belgium. Preparations are also under way for making a good Canadian display at the Panama Exposition to be held at San Francisco in 1915.

In connection with the administration of the Insect and Pest Act an active campaign is in operation in the Maritime Provinces in fighting the Brown Tail moth, which has caused great havoc in the bordering states.

THE AGRICULTURAL AID ACT

The Agricultural Aid Act, the provisions of which are already fairly well understood, is calculated to increase the efficiency and equipment of the agricultural colleges, establish agricultural dairying and horticultural schools, to initiate agricultural teaching in public schools, and otherwise provide education for the farming community. Assistance is also to be given to the training of teachers in domestic science. The bill provides

The bank also will be permitted to lend money to ranchers on the security of their cattle, but this privilege is not extended to mixed farmers evidently because the small cattle holdings of the latter would render it difficult for a bank to safeguard its loan.

In order to better safeguard depositors and stock holders, provision is made by which the Finance Minister may at any time investigate the condition of any particular bank regarding which he may be suspicious.

The maximum rate of interest which a bank may take remains at seven per cent, but a provision was added calling for a quarterly return from the banks as to the rates of interest they are charging.

Under the revised tariff rates traction ditching machines for use on farms, and of a value not more than \$3,000, are to be admitted duty free. Formerly a duty of 23½ per cent was charged against these machines. Cement duties have been reduced



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that \$10,000,000 are to be distributed among the provinces during the next 10 years. The distribution is to be made on the basis of population with the modification that \$20,000 a year is to be divided among each Veterinary Colleges as grant degrees and come up to a certain standard. In addition \$20,000 will be allotted to each province regardless of population. From the above table it will be seen that \$25,000 have been provided to administer this Act.

THE GRAIN ACT

Western farmers are to be afforded relief from the amendments to the Grain Act. A sample market is being established at Port William, and at Port Arthur the elevator capacity is being increased by 12,000,000 bushels. There are also being built a number of interior terminal elevators. These are being put up by the Government, by whom they will be controlled through the Board of Grain Commissioners. These will have a regular staff, who will weigh and inspect the grain. It can then be sold on inspection and the seller may on his warehouse receipt get an advance of money. Plans are also under way for building transfer elevators on the Pacific coast in time for the opening of the Panama Canal and at the terminus of the Hudson Bay Railway. These are to be equipped with clearing and drying machinery so as to take care of damaged and unclean stock.

Under the revised Bank Act a farmer may secure a loan upon threshed grain remaining in his possession.

one cent a cwt. under the preferential and 2½ cents a cwt. under the general tariff.

PARCEL POST

Farm and Dairy readers will welcome the inauguration of a Parcel Post system in Canada. In the last hour of Parliament a bill providing for its establishment was passed. The system is in most particulars similar to that recently put into operation in the United States, but instead of adopting, as in the Republic, a complicated zone system, based on definite areas, each province is to constitute a zone, except that the three Maritime provinces will be one zone. Also a 20-mile zone, irrespective of provincial boundaries, is to be established in which the rates will be very low. This is designed to protect the local merchants, who will be given, within that area, a much cheaper rate than what would be paid on parcels sent, for instance, from the big departmental stores outside. Eleven pounds will be the limit of weight of parcels and the extreme girth 72 inches. Two supervisors are to be appointed, and the law will come into force only when proclaimed by the government. This is expected to take place about the beginning of January, 1914.

A few doubters there are, and they claim with reason that a cement floor, unless extra well bedded, is cold. This objection may be overcome to a very large extent, by making the floor of the cow stall of reinforced concrete slabs.