

You send that away to Europe, and you get a good price for it. You have completed your transaction; have you transported anything except grain? Now, there is a question to answer. You have exported some of the vital foods of the land upon which that grain was raised; and if you go on exporting similarly year after year, you will have to turn round by and by and purchase back at great cost fertilizers to replace that food value that you exported. And when you figure it on a basis of fifty years, you will find that your exporting has not been as profitable as you might have thought. However, the point I wish to make is this: agriculture can be so carried on that the land will become richer year by year. With all our scientific and experimental knowledge, this country ought to see to it that the lands of Canada shall not become a failing asset, but that they shall rather become a constantly growing asset so far as fertility and power to reproduce is concerned. There chemistry comes in and performs its work. As this scientific knowledge filters into the minds of the farmers and of the people generally, the benefits will become apparent and the soils that are cultivated will have increased fertility and productiveness. This, then, is one of the resources that you can keep.

Take your fisheries. Why should you not have an interest upon capital in the way of fisheries and not allow that capital to be diminished? You can do it by employing proper methods of fishing and by utilizing everything that you take out of the sea in the way of subsidiary products. You will have a greater yearly output, and by carefully observing the proper methods of fishing and looking also to reproduction, your fisheries will not diminish with increase of population, but will be sufficient for all purposes and will at the same time afford an interest upon your preserved capital for foreign account. So that you can divide our resources into these two classes: those which are perishable, and those which may be maintained always if we deal with them in the right way.

There never was a golden age for the chemist and the scientist comparable to this, so far as the application of these truths to agricultural pursuits is concerned. And when I use the word "agriculture," I include stock as well, the very same thing is true of stock. All of you who are around these tables know what improvements