

follow the instruction given. We go to the expense of sending travelling dairies, and the farmers benefit by the example set them in manipulating the cream and make good butter. I believe the Government are doing right in not taking any more butter, for we have men in the business who are better capable of putting it in good condition on the English market, and all they want is refrigerators provided to take it across the ocean.

Mr. BAIN (Wentworth). We are all very much in the dark. I should be very pleased to have a specific statement from the Secretary of State, who represents the Minister of Agriculture, of the actual transaction. The only official statement we have was in reply to the hon. member for Stanstead (Mr. Rider) three weeks ago, according to which reply the limited shipment of butter was sold at a fraction over 16 cents a pound. If that transaction stands alone, it would create the impression abroad that the butter was either of inferior grade or handled under adverse circumstances.

Mr. MONTAGUE. I explained to the hon. gentleman that the returns had not been received for all the shipments which had been made, but I thought I gave to the House a very full statement as to what had been done.

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). It was a stump speech.

Mr. MONTAGUE. My hon. friend must judge for himself, but I thought I was giving information to the House. I can only say that the cost of examination, inspection, freight charges and everything else will certainly come within the item now asked; and the question for the House to consider is whether the Government, in pursuing that course, have done \$3,000 worth of a value to the butter interest of Canada because that is the real question. Again I am very much surprised that hon. gentlemen should pursue, with regard to this matter, the course they have pursued. Surely we ought to be all united in our desire to promote in every shape the dairy industry of the country, and there is not a gentleman on the other side who dare say that that was not the desire of the Government in taking the steps now under review. As to what the hon. member for South Huron (Mr. McMullen) said. I must say that the Government acted not only in accordance with the resolutions sent from the farmers' institutes but with the wish of the butter and creamery associations, who asked that financial aid be given for one year for the purpose of establishing a market as much as possible in Great Britain. As to the statement made earlier in the debate that this industry had not been helped by the Government, hon. gentlemen answered that themselves by admitting that money had been spent for the purpose of booming Cana-

Mr. McMILLAN.

dian cheese in Great Britain, and the hon. member for South Huron (Mr. McMullen) also admitted that an inspector did spend one day in his factory for the purpose of giving them lessons in their industry.

Mr. McMILLAN. It was not the dairy commissioner but long before he had existence. It was the commissioner brought from the other side and paid for by the Ontario Government to go among the cheese factories of western Ontario. He came to the county of Huron, called the cheese makers together, and showed them how to manipulate the milk, from the time it came to the factory until it was converted into cheese.

Mr. MONTAGUE. My hon. friend does not differ with me. I knew what he said exactly. I can only say that the Government are proud of their record with regard to the dairy industry of Canada. We are proud that we spent about \$3,000 a year in Prince Edward Island since a few years ago, and that we raised the export of butter and cheese from that island from \$5,000 a year to no less than \$90,000 a year. According to the estimate of the farmers in that island, the sum of \$50,000 more has been received for the dairy products of Prince Edward Island than would have been under the old system for the same amount of product, which the hon. member for South Huron is defending. We are adopting the same course in the North-west Territories. We have inspectors there who are instructing the people the way to prosper in the dairy industry, and I am glad that, while hon. gentlemen opposite are finding fault with the policy of the Government, the creamery associations of Manitoba have been asking the Government to assist them, and the Government besides spending small sums, passed through the House, last session a vote in that direction. And notwithstanding the harping of hon. gentlemen opposite on small technicalities, this Government will pursue a similar course to-day whenever required.

Mr. McMILLAN. How much butter was sold in Montreal?

Mr. MONTAGUE. Two hundred and forty-six packages, which were not regarded by the inspector as quite up to the standard for the British market. The hon. gentleman knows as well as I do that dairy butter, while it may be very excellent and command an excellent price in the Canadian market, is not sufficiently uniform in taste or colour to secure the British market and the hon. gentleman, if he knows anything about the subject, knows that the hope of Canada is to secure a large export of creamery butter and establish a uniform grade in the British market.

Mr. McMILLAN. What price did you get for the butter sold in Montreal?