

Mr. MOTHERWELL: He has been there only since last September, but he has made a number of recommendations with regard to the cheese and butter business particularly. As I intimated this afternoon, the amount of restrictive legislation passed by this House within the last few years has been complained of to such an extent that I do not feel that it is advisable at this time, no matter how pressing the requirements may be, to bring down any further legislation of that nature. But strong recommendations have come from Mr. Wilson to standardize the cheese and butter boxes. They are not standardized now, and the change would necessitate making a different sized hoop. That of course would cost money, but I think it will have to be done some time in order to have the cheeses fit the boxes properly. At present the cheese is sometimes about an inch smaller in diameter than the box with the result that in the handling of loosely packed boxes of this kind the cases often fall to pieces. We could bring down legislation this year as we have enough information from him to justify that with regard to both cheese boxes and butter boxes; but at the conference held recently at Ottawa before the session opened, it was thought better to get further information before we made that change and necessitated that expenditure in our cheese factories. That is some of the work in which he has been engaged. We have enough information from him to warrant a number of changes being made to meet present market conditions, but we feel that the time is not ripe to make those changes. The people, as I have intimated this afternoon, have had sufficient restrictive legislation for the time being. There is a timely time to do things and that is not quite just now.

Mr. HANSON: The answer made by the minister is not an answer to my question. What results have been obtained and what benefits have come to the country as a result of the trip of the dairy commissioner to New Zealand and Australia last year?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: It was Mr. Ruddick, the present dairy commissioner, who established, you might say, the present dairy industry in New Zealand when he was there as dairy commissioner something over twenty years ago. His work is being followed up there by a Mr. Singleton. From experience, we find that the New Zealanders are setting the pace for Canada, in fact, for almost every other country, except Denmark as regards putting goods on the British market in an

[Mr. Hanson.]

exceptionally good condition. Since I have had the honour of coming to Ottawa, we have had New Zealanders visit Canada. It is quite the thing for a prominent dairyman in every dairying country to visit countries that are their chief rivals in order to hear the last word in dairying. If there is anything that can be secured and applied to their respective countries, they take it home and apply it. Mr. Ruddick wanted to see just how the people of New Zealand were excelling Canada in the matter of butter-making and cheese-making too. He found out many of their more recent methods, some of which are not applicable to conditions in Canada because of our small cheese factories. For instance, as regards the question of pasteurization, although it is generally understood that the appetite or taste in Great Britain is pretty well fixed for a certain type of cheese or butter, nevertheless all those in authority there are of one accord that the appetite for both butter and cheese in the Old Country is changing. The people there want the milder cheese, one that is made from pasteurized milk, and we find that practically all the milk in New Zealand is pasteurized before it is made into cheese. The same thing applies to cream and butter. That is something which we are drawing to the attention of farmers in Canada, also; but unfortunately in this country where the factories are so small, they cannot afford to put in a pasteurizing plant for the small quantity of business done in one factory. Consequently, we are starting on a policy of encouraging the people, as they start new factories, to build combined ones, butter and cheese, and larger ones, so that the output will warrant employment of first class men and putting in pasteurizing plants to meet the taste of the British market with milder cheese which can be made only with pasteurized milk. These are some of the results of his visit. I might tell the committee some of the others.

Mr. HANSON: I am sure the committee will be pleased to hear of other results of the visit of this gentleman to New Zealand. What was the nature of the difficulty into which this gentleman got in New Zealand, and how does the matter now stand?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I do not understand the question, and my deputy does not understand it.

Mr. HANSON: Perhaps it was in connection with the other gentleman.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Mr. Wilson. He accompanied Mr. Ruddick.