

ness capacity and enterprise have established a large number of cheese factories or a large number of creameries. These men would get bonuses on a number of creameries, yet every individual who asks for a bonus and complies with the conditions receives it; and it is as easy for the owner of one creamery to comply with the conditions for one building as for the owner of ten to comply with the conditions for ten buildings. The bonus is given to the factory, not to the individual.

Mr. HENDERSON. What is the reason the export of butter fell off so much in 1901 from what it was in 1900? There seems to be a discrepancy there at which I am rather surprised, because the hon. minister seems to be doing a good deal to promote the butter industry.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. The figures the hon. gentleman (Mr. Henderson) refers to are for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1901. The butter production for that fiscal year was smaller in consequence of the price of cheese. We have a certain amount of milk in Canada to be made up into butter or cheese. Some seasons a larger proportion is made into butter and some seasons a larger proportion is made into cheese. It happened that the season for the calendar year 1900 opened very well for cheese, and, during that calendar year there was a very much larger quantity of milk made into cheese than there was made into butter. The year before, the butter export had been very large. The result was that, in the fiscal year commencing 1st July, 1900, and ending 30th June, 1901, there was less butter produced for export than there had been for the year before. The conditions, however, apparently, have changed a little, and last calendar year, the year just closed, we had a much larger export of butter. In this last calendar year—we sometimes reckon butter and cheese production and exports by the season, and then in the Trade and Navigation Returns they are entered by the fiscal year—in the season of 1901 again there was a much greater production of butter, as a matter of fact, about \$5,000,000 worth in round figures, was exported. During the season of 1900 there was much less exported; during the season of 1899 there was about \$5,000,000 worth of butter exported. I think the explanation is that the factorymen and the patrons thought that season that cheese was going to sell rather better than butter. As my hon. friend will notice, this last calendar year in which, as I have pointed out, there was a great increase in the butter exports, there was a very decided decrease of cheese exports.

Mr. HENDERSON. I have not got the figures for the calendar year.

Hon. Mr. FISHER.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. I understand that, and it was a complicated work to prepare the figures, because the season's make is in the calendar year, and the export of it comes very nearly in the fiscal year. There is not a great deal of butter, as a rule, exported during the early months of the navigation of the St. Lawrence. The export of butter made in a given calendar year does not begin to any great extent until after the first of July, it therefore goes into the fiscal year following.

Mr. HENDERSON. I notice, however, that in the last fiscal year the article of butter, so much aided by the government, shows a very much reduced amount of export, and the article of cheese, that was not assisted by the government, showed an increased export, showing that the government's assistance made no difference.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. I have pointed out that in that season the price of cheese in England was up, and the price of butter was not up particularly, and therefore our people turned their milk into cheese.

Mr. HENDERSON. So as a matter of fact the government cannot take credit for the increased export.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. The government cannot make people do one thing or the other, but the government can provide facilities, and the people take advantage of them or not, as they think it is to their interest. As a matter of fact, butter has come up again during the last calendar year of 1901, and \$5,000,000 worth was exported. The hon. gentleman has not got those figures in the Trade and Navigation Returns, but they have been published in the press, and given to different dairy conventions over the country, and are well understood. During the last calendar year the cheese export has not only been reduced in price in consequence of what I explained a few minutes ago, but it has also been decreased in volume. As a matter of fact, in the calendar year of 1901 the value of cheese exported from Canada was about \$4,000,000 less than it was in 1900, speaking in round figures; and of that \$4,000,000 decrease, those who are acquainted with the trade have placed at \$2,000,000 the shrinkage of quantity, and at about \$2,000,000 the shrinkage in value. Now, I will speak a little about the live stock division. Here I have taken a new departure in appointing a live stock commissioner.

Mr. SPROULE. The minister may remember that he said the other day that he had appointed a live stock commissioner on the advice of eminent agriculturists whom he had consulted by letter, and he was pleased to see that their reports were almost uni-