

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: Is it the intention to investigate the charges made by the abattoirs?

The CHAIRMAN: I think that is one of the things we should consider, but I shall be guided by the Committee. I know that Mr. McCallum, who is here, is very well posted on these things, and we hope to hear him later.

Hon. Mr. LITTLE: Mr. Chairman, I am sorry to say that I was out when Mr. Rothwell started to speak, and I do not know if we have a record of the export of cattle to the United States, the Argentine and Great Britain over a period of years.

Mr. LIGHT: The figures can be obtained and given here.

Mr. ROTHWELL: The Minister referred this morning to one of the most prominent British buyers, Brown of Manchester. I had occasion to talk to Mr. Brown on his last visit and I was rather anxious to get his opinion of the quality and suitability of our cattle, particularly in view of some criticisms that we have heard. The Minister referred to those criticisms and mentioned the difficulty connected with grading cattle in this country. He pointed out that from 85 to 87 per cent of the cattle that we export are now being bought here by the exporters. As I say, I wanted to know what Mr. Brown thought of our cattle, and he said "Don't let anyone tell you that your cattle are not suitable for our trade." It must be remembered, honourable gentlemen, that he is an expert, a man who has been in that business for a long time. He also said "If I were bringing a ship-load of cattle from Canada I should want a representative selection all the way from the top quality selected steers right down to bulls, because in my business we can find a place for all of them. In the city of Manchester and district, with a population of some eight millions, we have a demand for beef that is not too fat and that must be within certain price limits. We have the markets in Great Britain for every kind of cattle that you produce, if we can buy at the right price." That is the opinion of a practical man, and it differs from some of the theoretical opinions that we get at times from some of our trade representatives in the Old Country.

Hon. Mr. FORKE: Mr. Brown's ideas suit us better.

Mr. ROTHWELL: Yes. He also said that they had been getting too many old and rough cattle from Canada.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: When you refer to old cattle do you mean heavy cattle?

Mr. ROTHWELL: Yes. They want them lighter. The question was raised this morning as to whether cattle should be sent from this country finished or in store condition. I think it depends upon where the cattle come from. The Westerner should finish his cattle, because he has lots of grain to feed them. In recent years he has been able to feed his cattle such large quantities of grain as would appear impracticable to our feeders in the East.- In Ontario we have different conditions, and we are in a position to use alfalfa, peas and clovers and roots, feeds that will make a young animal grow but will not necessarily fatten it. And there is a great market in the Old Country for young, lightweight cattle with a little breeding. In the past when a man could ship a 1,500-pounds steer as cheaply as he could ship a 700-pounds steer, he was inclined to send the heavier animal. At the present time animals 1,000 lbs. and under are eligible to a 10% cut on the rate of \$12 applying on heavier cattle. I think you will find that there may be a change made eventually in the fitting of boats, so that it would be possible to ship six young cattle as cheaply as four or five can be shipped now. And once that is done there should be a great increase in the number of younger and lighter animals shipped to Britain.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: Are animals now not being shipped on the space basis?

Mr. ROTHWELL: Yes and five on the space for four where possible, but we should like to see it extended one more.