

But this is a task which is incumbent, not only upon the Government, but upon the producers, who must be convinced that their co-operation with the Government is an absolute necessity. This co-operation will become all the more easy when they see that the Government is coming to their aid to the best of its ability.

In my view there are three things necessary to the progress of the dairy industry in this country:

1. Tools.
2. Dairy control.
3. Classification of dairy products.

Tools include, in the practical sense of the word, good herds, good buildings, and the best methods of production. In these matters the country has made enormous strides and can compare favourably with many other countries. Progress towards amelioration on that side will continue then normally, if the farmers feel that they are supported and encouraged.

Dairy control, of fairly recent date, receives a new impulse each year. It is the indispensable barometer for milk producers who wish to check up the productive value of their cattle. It is not sufficient for certain farmers to declare that the milk industry does not pay, if they have not first found out the yielding capacity of their cattle.

The Department of Agriculture has done splendid work up to the present. It is important that the present Government add new methods of action in the endeavour to popularize as quickly as possible the system of control.

The classification of dairy products exists, properly speaking, only in embryo. Last year Parliament enacted a law giving to the Department of Agriculture the task of framing rules for the application of this law.

Not longer ago than the 7th, 8th and 9th of this month there was held at Ottawa, under the presidency of the higher officers of the Department of Agriculture, a reunion of the principal makers of butter and cheese in this country. Each of the provinces of the Confederation was represented at it. The classification was there approved. I consider that the classification of dairy products is extremely urgent to enable us to resume the high place that we had succeeded in attaining in foreign markets, and especially in the English market. Besides, the classification is a matter of justice for the producers. It will be a practical lesson for those interested and

Hon. Mr. BOYER.

will render justice equally to each of the provinces.

Canadian products, at least dairy products, must not be classified according to the province from which they come but according to their respective values independent of their source; that is to say, not quantity in production, but uniformity in quality.

This law will put an end to a rivalry between our two largest provinces, which has lasted too long; it will render justice to each one of them, under a uniform stamp determining the quality of each of their products and their sale of these products, on a footing of equality.

The Government is disposed to give effect to this new law, which will be applied for the benefit of the community in general. This is another mark of its solicitude for the agricultural class.

I am a convinced believer in the efficacy of co-operation; I commend the association together of groups of farmers to expedite improvements in the raising of different breeds of cattle, in the production of milk and its by-products, and in the sale of their produce. There only lies progress.

These associations, composed of active and enterprising men, generally accomplish what they undertake, to their own benefit, and equally to the benefit of the great mass of farmers.

In my opinion, the Government should not hesitate to encourage, to subsidize, their efforts. They facilitate the work of the Department of Agriculture, and meet the needs of the farmers better than the staff of very competent officers of this important department could do it alone.

Economy, the strictest economy, will be the dominant note of the present Government. We have no reason to doubt their sincerity if we recall the golden age of the Laurier Government when, on entering into office in 1896, the latter had to re-establish the equilibrium in our finances and restore the confidence compromised by the preceding régime. Once more, this is the main task the Government will have to accomplish, in face of the depletion of our national treasury. Our financial situation is truly deplorable. The task of the Government is enormous; but when we consider the patriotism and the worthiness of the members of the Government and of the present Parliament we have the firm hope that it will re-establish confidence and bring back the affluence of former days. What the Government has to do is not only to act, but to teach others that the