

other day I was speaking about co-operation in Canada, and I was about to draw the attention of the committee to this little publication 'The Canadian Co-operator' (publication produced and marked Exhibit No. 7). It has been published during the last two years in Canada, but I was not aware whether it had come to the notice of the committee. There are references in it to the co-operative movement throughout the Dominion, and to the advantages of co-operation. We have, in the Department of Labour, a complete file of this publication.

Q. Is it still being published?—A. Yes, it is being issued monthly. If the committee wish to have the file I shall be pleased to place it where it may be available. We would like to have it back in the department later on. There is an opinion in this work 'The Empire and the Century,' by Prof. Robertson, the head of the Macdonald Agricultural College, that I think would be of interest to the committee as to what the co-operative movement has done in the case of one or two industries in Canada. I have marked the statement to which I refer, at page 388, and will read it. Prof. Robertson, in speaking of Canadian agriculture, says:—

'The province of Prince Edward Island is adapted for dairying through butter and cheese factories, but that business was going backward for want of information and education. In the year 1892, with the assistance of money given by the Dominion government, one co-operative cheese factory was started at New Perth, in Prince Edward Island. The machinery was lent by the government. An instructor was sent to organize the business and to arrange the locality into routes for the convenience of those supplying milk. The factory was managed as a government dairy station, as an object-lesson for the education of the people in co-operative dairying. In the autumn of 1892 I took the liberty of exporting to London \$3,600 worth of cheese manufactured at that station, and I can recall the remonstrances of some of the people against risking their cheese in any steamer. I got fault-finding letters asking me why I did not sell the cheese at home, or in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The cheese was delivered in England and was sold there for the top market price. Some of it, indeed, sold for sixpence per hundred weight more. I angled for that sixpence, and I got it. Then, when the Island people knew that they had got sixpence per hundredweight more for their cheese than was paid for any other Canadian cheese sold that day in London, it put new faith, hope, and courage into them. That was the beginning of the export of cheese from Prince Edward Island, to the value of \$3,600. At the taking of the census in 1891, the four cheese factories in Prince Edward Island were put in the returns as having an output valued at \$566,824. There is an instance of the result of organization and education. There had been no increase in the number of acres of land occupied, and but little increase in the number of cows kept. The change had been in the quality of the intelligent labour applied to the conditions. The people now run their own factories, and have repaid to the government every dollar that was lent to them. There is no part of agriculture that is not susceptible to the same kind of improvement.'

Elsewhere Professor Robertson says:

'The people of the province of Quebec were generally supposed to be far behind those of Ontario in education and co-operation as applied to dairying and agriculture generally. The returns in the census of 1901 revealed some of the results of the educational campaign. Ontario made great progress, but Quebec made much more. The following table is indicative in part of what was accomplished:—

'Value of product from co-operative butter and cheese factories as returned in the two census years 1901 and 1891.

	Ontario.	Quebec.
Value in 1900	\$14,706,303	\$12,261,898
Value in 1890	7,569,338	2,918,527
Increase	\$7,136,965	\$9,343,371

'The development of this industry, which has increased the desire and capacity of the rural populations to co-operate in other ways, is traceable directly to education