

any good? I think the Canadian farmer is too intelligent to doubt it. What would be the result to-day if you took the duty off? By this arrangement we reduce it to one and a quarter cents a pound. It was 24 cents a pound when we imported 22,500,000 pounds, and they kept stalls open. Would not the same thing happen again? It would, and to the detriment of the Canadian farmer who is raising meat enough to feed the Canadian people and is entitled to demand from the Canadian government a protection of the home market for the Canadian farmer. But although we are feeding the Canadian people our exports of cured meats, packing house produce, increased from \$5,000,000 in 1889 when that duty was put on to \$17,196,000 in 1903, and in addition we fed the Canadians as well. Was that no benefit to the Canadian farmer? Would we not do him serious injustice if we took that duty off? In my judgment we would. By these means we secured a profitable market in Great Britain for all we had to sell over home consumption and we had there a splendid market also for our dairy products? What did we do with regard to dairy products? We sent our dairy instructors and instructed the people how to make better butter and better cheese. We prohibited the importation, manufacture or sale of spurious products, process butter and filled cheese which were largely produced in the United States. We compelled the Canadian people to label all Canadian produce going to Great Britain so that it would not be confused with American produce there. Then the Americans commenced shipping butter and cheese across at Brockville, sending it to England by Montreal and calling it Canadian. We stopped that by compelling them when they brought it across to label it United States produce. By these means we developed that industry until in a few years our cheese products increased, the price and quality went up all along the line until three years ago we enjoyed the advantage of being able to supply the British market with 65 per cent of all the cheese imported from all parts of the world. The United States was our greatest competitor in 1879 and shipped double the quantity of cheese to Britain that we did. The exports have been going down from that time until to-day, and last year they sent there only a few million pounds, a negligible quantity, and there is practically no American cheese in the English market to-day. We supplied England last year with 65 per cent of her imports of cheese. Will any one tell me in the face of these facts that the Canadian dairymen would not suffer and lose his reputation for butter and cheese abroad if he allowed the same thing to happen now that happened years ago? History would repeat itself and the Canadian dairyman

would live to learn that he made the mistake of his life when he passed that resolution saying that all he desired was to get into the American market with his cheese and butter.

The hon. member for South Wellington (Mr. Guthrie) said that he represented an agricultural constituency, that there were farmers there who are raising the best cattle found on the continent, and raising splendid horses for which they desired access to the Buffalo and New York market.

He said :

The arrangement presented before us will give Canada tremendous advantages over the position which she now occupies.

He added :

Will any one tell me that the people of my riding do not desire to get their cattle and their sheep and their hogs into the Buffalo market?

I would like to ask would they be equally desirous that the man from Kansas, Illinois, Ohio and New York should come into the Canadian market and share the markets of Guelph, or Toronto, or Montreal with the Canadian farmers to the extent they were doing before? Will the hon. member for South Wellington (Mr. Guthrie) be willing to see an American butcher stall opened in Guelph, to sell beef and pork from Chicago in competition with the farmers of South Wellington? I think not. He says the Canadian farmers are anxious to get into the American market to sell horses. Where do they sell them to-day? They have a splendid market in the Canadian west, the best we ever had, a Canadian market, a home market, a market that never fails us so long as we protect it against the American people. Last year over 6,000 horses were imported from the United States and paid over \$100,000 duty to get into our market.

Mr. MILLER. Was not a large number of these horses the property of immigrants coming to Canada which as settlers' effects would pay no duty?

Mr. SPROULE. No, these are horses on which duty was paid, the settlers' effects are not included in this list. Remove that duty and will there not be much greater competition with the Canadian farmers? Our Canadians are buying horses all over our country, and are paying enormous prices. I saw \$200 paid for one horse the day I was home, \$255 is sometimes paid, and I saw \$450 paid for a team. Where were they going? Away to the western provinces to supply our people. The hon. member for South Wellington said that we want to get into New York with these horses. These heavy horses never go to New York ; the only market we have there is for fancy hunters or for driving horses