and present circumstances seem of a nature to encourage them.

I shall now give figures showing the progress of this industry since 1850, which point to the conclusion that a considerable amount of money has been lost to our farmers, because they neglected to work the maple-tree. I have drawn important information from the annual report of the co-operative society of maple sugar and syrup producers. This information is furnished by Mr. Joseph H. Lefèvre, secretary of the society, John H. Grimm, a Montreal manufacturer and other distinguished men who take an interest in this industry. In looking into these statistics it will be found that the maple region extends throughout Quebec, Ontario, and the maritime provinces, and that about two-thirds of the total production is in Quebec. Canada produced from

1850 to 1860, 135,000,000 of pounds of maple sugar.

1860 to 1870, 175,000,000 of pounds of maple sugar, an increase of 40,000,000.

1870 to 1880, 190,000,000 of pounds of maple sugar, an increase of 15,000,000.

1880 to 1890, 225,000,000 of pounds of maple sugar, an increase of 35,000,000.

1890 to 1900, 212,000,000 of pounds of maple sugar, a decrease of 13,000,000.

1900 to 1910, 196,000,000 of pounds of maple sugar, a decrease of 16,000,000.

Those figures are to be apportioned among the different provinces in about the following proportion: Quebec contributed 65 per cent of the total output of maple sugar and syrup manufactured in Canada; Ontario, 32 per cent, and the maritime provinces, 3 per cent.

But how explain the decrease of 16,000,000 of pounds in the production of maple sugar during the ten years from 1890 to 1900? That decrease is due to the adulterators of all kinds, who, by their unfair competition, have disheartened the farmers On June 6, 1905, out of one hundred samples of syrup tested by the Inland Revenue officers, 76 were found to have been adulterated; which means that one-quarter was pure and three-quarters mixtures. In the second series of tests made, 34 per cent of the samples proved adulterated. On February 16, 1911, Mr. McGill wrote to Mr. Grimm, of Montreal, that out of twelve hundred sample tests only 59 came up to the standard which had been adopted as the legal standard. On the other hand, the sugar-bush has been neglected in certain localities. The small state of Vermont, with an area of only 10,200 square miles, has an annual production of sugar amounting to $1,086,933. This figure is an eloquent answer to those who would say that there is no money in the maple syrup and sugar industry. According to the census of the United States of 1910, which gives the data for 1909, maple sugar is made in nineteen states. The total number of trees notched, 18,899,533; pounds of sugar made, 14,060,206; gallons of syrup made, 4,106,611, corresponding to 43,119,416 pounds of sugar. Out of this total output, Vermont, the smallest of the seventeen states supplied 7,726,817 pounds, that being 700,000 pounds more than all the other states put together.

Apart from its interest as a source of supply of sugar and syrup the maple industry is of importance in connection with the preservation of our maple forests. To-day the economic importance of reforestation is a frequent topic of discussion. Mr. R. H. Campbell, superintendent of forests for the Dominion Government, has expressed the opinion that it would be more profitable to plant maple trees that reach a diameter of eighteen inches in 120 years than yellow pine-trees that would take only 60 years to reach the same size. The value of the maple-tree is not in its sap alone. It is much valued as a hard wood and very useful. Maple wood is used in the manufacture of agricultural implements, for the making of various parts of carriages, for the wood-work of buildings, as flooring, for the keels of sea-going vessels, for shoe-makers' pegs, saddle stocks, etc. Bird's-eye maple is much sought after for the veneering of expensive furniture and the inside finish of railway passenger coaches. Lastly, maple makes excellent fuel, and is used in the preparation of charcoal, wood alcohol and acetic acid. So the maple-tree, besides an ornamental tree of great beauty, is a source of annual revenue to the farmer and to the lumberman when it is no longer useful for sugar-making or when the farmer having an excess of it may dispose of a certain quantity. The planting of maple-trees is then worth while going into. Suppose that every one of the 55,000 sugar-makers grow only ten acres, that would mean 550,000 acres, or about 1,000 square miles of land. Of all the industries, none is so typical of Canada and none yields a larger profit for the money invested and for the care which is given to it, and that without exhausting the soil. Yet, it must be admitted that 75 per cent of Canadian territory is unfit for the cultivation of cereals on account of the large number of stones to be found in it, and that if those