

that description send their cream to the creamery and they are dependent upon the cream cheque for their whole living or to augment the income which they make from other sources. Their home and farm are just as essential to them as theirs are to owners of far larger acreages in other parts of Canada. Those mixed farmers are bringing up their families on those farms. The farmer trains his son; we help to educate him, and if that son in growing up sees that the industry in which his father is engaged is receiving something in the nature of a slam from the government of the day, what is more likely than that he will look for his future employment elsewhere than in Canada?

Another most valuable assistance which is smiled on at least by the Department of Agriculture is the childrens' clubs: pig clubs, poultry clubs, calf clubs, through which the youngster is enabled to get well bred animals or birds, the idea at the back of that being to foster mixed farming in Canada. I do not suppose there is in the whole of this Dominion a prouder dairyman than a high school boy, Foster Whitaker, in Armstrong at the north end of the Okanagan valley. A few years ago he obtained through a calf club a jersey heifer calf. His neighbours did not think at the time he had got anything in the way of a remarkable animal, but he believed in that heifer calf and he tended it along with the other cows on his father's farm. That heifer calf has grown into the world's biggest producer. I read a few sentences from the *Armstrong Advertiser* of January 28:

Although she was running as a four-year old—

That is this cow which is known as Pretoria Oxford Janet.

—in the test just completed, being four years, 277 days old at the commencement of the 305 day period, she has eclipsed the records of both four and five year old Jersey cows in this particular.

The article goes on to give the records of the previous record holders, both of them Jersey cows from Oregon. Then it proceeds:

But Janet as a four year old has produced 14,935.2 pounds of milk and 869.31 of butter fat. Thus she has brought back the Jersey record to Canada and to the British Empire, and the empire at large has reason to be proud of her to-day.

There is no prouder dairyman in Canada to-day than that boy. This cow has made this wonderful record in spite of the fact that some mischievous miscreants broke into her barn last Halloween, threw her and bound her to a beam. Fortunately this did not set her back in her milk and cream production for long; and there is the result. I can assure you, Sir, that when I saw her in the stock parade at the Armstrong fair last fall she

[Mr. Stirling.]

made the perfect picture of a cow. That is one way in which under government auspices endeavours have been made to foster the mixed farming industry in Canada, and I can imagine no better way than that of trying to get our youngsters interested in the production of butter, eggs and all the other products of a mixed farm.

When I went back to Yale last July and began to move through the constituency, nothing astonished me more than the unanimity of opinion that I found against the Australian agreement, wherever I went in the mixed farming section. It was unsought by me; it was brought to me; wherever I went apprehensive questions were asked me as to what the effect would be on the dairyman, the fruit grower and the vegetable grower. The people were bewildered that this government, which so often preaches peopling the waste places of Canada; which through its Department of Agriculture endeavours to interest farmers more intensely in their industry, should at the same time give such a manifest slap in the face to the dairy industry. I want to draw attention to a piece of newspaper propaganda, I will call it. There is a newspaper called *Farm and Home* that finds, or at least used to find, its way to a great number of the farms of British Columbia. After the Australian treaty had been debated in the House, it came out with an editorial on the 25th June running in part thus:

Canada has long desired better trade relations with Australia, but the treaty of reciprocity as it now stands cannot be expected to win approval in this province.

I may say that there is no doubt whatever as to the political bias of this paper, for at the time of the by-election in Yale in 1924 it came out as a strong supporter of my opponent.

The basis of desire for reciprocity with Australia has always been the seasonal difference between the two countries. When it is winter in Australia it is summer here. . . . The hope of Canada has been to expand her markets for fish, lumber and fresh fruit. The hope of Australia has been to increase her outlet for raisins and other canned and dried fruit. It would appear that Canada's negotiators have been over anxious to arrive at an agreement, with the result that Australia has driven a true bargain.

It then touches on fruit and vegetables and various items mentioned in the trade agreement, and with regard to butter it says:

Under the treaty butter would be admitted at one cent per pound and cheese free. This presents an alarming prospect to our dairymen whose future is closely identified with the possibility of increasing butter and cheese production for the home market.