

their opinion was of protection for Canadian farmers. That question has been tested time and again, and the farmers have decided that they want protection; and if there is one thing more than another for which this Government should be supported, it is because they have given to the farmers of Canada, from time to time, the protection they demanded.

Mr. McMILLAN. I am the individual who has been blamed for sending out circulars to the farmers; but I want to say that no circular was ever sent out by me or with my consent to any of the farmers of Ontario. If any one else did it, I have nothing to do with that; I want that to be understood. Now, with respect to the creamery associations asking for Government aid for the butter industry, the Western Creamery Association met at Chelsey, and Mr. Wart brought in a resolution asking the Government to grant cold storage; but Mr. Wart told me that that resolution was not adopted. It is true that at the Central Farmers' Institute at Toronto, a resolution was brought in, in the dying moments of the meeting, when there was not time to discuss it. I was present and would have said something if I had had the privilege, but I was not a member of the institute. What I said before I say still, that I think the Government should assist in providing refrigerators and cold storage; I am not opposed to that. We are told that the best butter only should be sent to Europe; but the best butter is not sent at the present time, because part of the butter sent only brings 76s. per cwt., while part has brought 90s. per cwt. This shows that inferior butter is sent, and I fear that as much injury will be done to the reputation of Canadian butter in the English market in 1895 as was done in 1893. I am opposed to the Government becoming a purchaser of any commodity and putting it on the market. Now, it is stated that the European countries have reached their limit in the production of butter. Here is a statement from the "Fortnightly Review," showing that whereas in 1889 the value of butter exported from Denmark to England was £3,742,869, in 1894, it had increased to £5,843,954. The same authority says:

It is erroneous to imagine that Danish butter-making is a State business. The State has nothing whatever to do with it, beyond arranging competitions and awarding prizes for excellence. These competitions are usually arranged at twelve hours' notice, so that the competitors are obliged to send in any butter they happen to have ready, instead of an extra good pound or two made specially for the exhibition with great care.

I hold that the Canadian Government ought to encourage butter making in Canada in the manner in which it has been encouraged in Denmark. It has been stated that the Ontario Government purchased butter and cheese. They did not purchase it to put

it on the market, but to exhibit it in competition with the products of other British colonies at the Colonial Exhibition. I was present at that exhibition myself, and I felt proud of the exhibit of butter and cheese from Ontario which I saw there. That is a very different thing from purchasing butter and cheese and putting it on the market for sale. It is very strange that some of the dealers in Montreal sold their butter to the Government when 21 cents a pound could be realized for it. I would like to know if Mr. Hobson sold his butter to the Government for 20 cents a pound, or did he get an extra price for it?

Mr. MONTAGUE. Not one cent in any case was advanced above 20 cents.

Mr. McMILLAN. Then Mr. Hobson was certainly a very stupid individual if he sold his butter for 20 cents a pound when inferior butter for shipment to England was bringing 21 cents. I say it advisedly that the farmers of Ontario are not in favour of the Government purchasing butter. They are certainly in favour of the Government doing what they can fairly do to place the butter industry upon a good footing, by assisting in placing butter on the British market in as good condition as the Australian butter, which is all brought in vessels having refrigerators. Danish butter is not shipped in refrigerators, because it does not come so great a distance and does not require them. If the Government do purchase butter, they should purchase from private individuals as well as from creameries, so long as it reaches the required standard of excellence. It is not fair to crush out private enterprise when we know that there are well-trained individuals who produce an article that will sell anywhere as well as creamery butter. Just as good butter can be produced by private individuals who have the modern appliances and who make it on scientific principles. Now, with regard to cheese, the province of Ontario engaged an expert, and sent him through the province to assist in perfecting our cheese making. Down to that time we had been at a disadvantage. But Prof. Arnold, who went through western Ontario, came to the factory of which I was at the time president, and remained there the day. The benefit we derived from his visit was very great indeed. That was the only assistance that the cheese industry received from the government of Ontario. But it was a great benefit. It placed all the factories that worked under his instructions in such a position that no further complaint was heard. The cheese industry in Ontario was established on a sound foundation before the Dominion Experimental Farm was started at all. I do not say that the Government are not benefiting the outlying provinces by means of this experimental farm system and I do not say that it is not of benefit to the farmers who