

posed that dairies should be established in uninhabited portions of the North-west. I am quite sure there are broad acres of vast extent in the North-west Territories where it would be very undesirable to establish creameries; but the proposal I advocate here to-day requires that at least thirty farmers shall go into this stock company for the purpose of establishing a creamery. It requires that they should guarantee there will be 400 cows. I do not propose to establish creameries where there are no cows. The proposition made by the hon. Minister of Agriculture, as I understood him—and I ask his attention to what I say because I may have misunderstood him—is not a generous one. I do not understand that he accepts my proposal. What I understood him to say was this, that he made a cleavage between the policy of the late Government and the policy of the present Government. I understood the Minister to say something like this,—to show in fact that he was falling back on a laissez faire policy from the cardinal and leading principles of Liberalism in every country; that this proposition of mine would in fact be inimical to the North-west Territories because what we wanted in the Territories was a larger number of people, a still greater increase in the number of flocks and herds. We have large herds now. We have, for instance around Lumsden, to speak of that part of the Territories which I know best, plenty of cows and a good population, but no creameries. Around Balgonie there are plenty of cows and considerable population. Both of those sections have asked for, and still ask for, creameries. As regards Maple Creek, the statement is true, and if it is not true in parts of Alberta, I will be very much surprised, as also in Eastern Assiniboia. I know when it was suggested that part of the eastern section should come into my constituency, I received letters from that portion of the Territories asking me to press this policy on Parliament and on the Government which I then supported. I do not propose. I need hardly say, to denude those people of their self-reliance. Our experience in Moose Jaw is not that the granting of such aid has denuded the people who went into the scheme of self-reliance; but our experience is, that it has aided the farmers who needed the help and special instruction, and the result of such aid has been that self-reliance was developed instead of being retarded or injured. What I understood the Minister of Agriculture to say was this: that the Government of which he is a member will inaugurate some policy that will crowd the North-west with people, with, I suppose, extraordinary rapidity; that it will crowd the North-west with herds, with, I suppose, extraordinary rapidity, and as such there will certainly be increased opportunity for the establishment of creameries. But the same argument so used will surely apply against this policy. The hon.

Mr. DAVIN.

gentleman spoke of such a policy as not being conducive to the self-reliance that would be produced by people being left to themselves and allowed to enter into projects on their own resources and entirely without Government aid. Sir, I cannot take that view at all. I shall be glad if the hon. Minister will tell me that I did not understand him correctly, and I shall be glad to learn that I failed to catch some sentence, in which he stated that he would adopt the policy of the late Government. Of course if the hon. gentleman is going to adopt the policy of the late Government and give those sections of the North-west those creameries which they would have had if the late Government had been allowed to bring down their Supplementary Estimates, that is all I want. But if the hon. gentleman is not going to adopt that course, I certainly think it very desirable that we should urge him to carry out that policy as best he could. I would be very glad if the hon. gentleman would tell me whether he said anything that would lead the House to believe that he was going to carry out that policy.

Mr. TALBOT. If the hon. gentleman will allow me, I will ask him a question. I understood the hon. gentleman in the first part of his speech to say that he did not anticipate that the late Government would be defeated and that there would be a change of Government; and on the strength of that anticipation he assured his constituents during the late campaign that he would forward their interests by securing a grant of \$20,000 from the Government.

Mr. DAVIN. That is not what I said. What I said was: that the Government had agreed with me to place in the Supplementary Estimates the sum of \$20,000 for the purpose of carrying out this policy, and if they had been allowed to pass those Estimates we would have had that money, and I used that as an argument why the people should support me as a supporter of that Government.

Mr. TALBOT. I am very much pleased with the answer given by the hon. gentleman. The effect of that answer to my mind is that if the hon. gentleman had not made that promise I do not think he would have had occasion to obtain the casting vote of the returning officer of his constituency. Under the circumstances, the Government are quite justified in refusing to grant the demand of the hon. gentleman, because it would enable him to put into execution a promise made at a time when such a statement could be interpreted as bribing his constituents.

Mr. LISTER. I think, Mr. Speaker, that the Government may fairly be trusted to look after every interest and to do everything that will promote the growth and prosperity of the North-west. I do not think