

step was undertaken by the Eastern Association ; and ever since that time the work of instruction has been a very important part of the two associations.

In 1885 the creamery men of the province complained that the associations were not giving enough attention to the development of the butter trade ; that in summer the work of instruction undertaken by the associations was altogether devoted to the promotion of the cheese industry, and that in winter, when the conventions were held, the discussions at the meetings took the same exclusive line. It was, therefore, determined that a separate organization should be formed, and this was done, and the Ontario Creameries' Association came into existence. There is no doubt that at the time of the formation of the Creameries' Association, there was good reason for its existence. However, as stated in Mr. Dryden's letter, the same conditions do not now exist. The cheese industry has been so fully developed that all dairymen realize that if they are to make further progress it must be by giving more attention to the development of the butter industry. In fact, now that cheese factories are devoting themselves to the making of butter in winter, and that even a number of creameries are devoting themselves to the making of cheese in summer, a successful dairyman is at once both a cheesemaker and a buttermaker, and a separation of the cheesemaking and buttermaking interests is no longer reasonable, or even possible.

It follows, then, that, supposing the present associations shall continue, the Dairymen's Associations will be largely taken up with the discussion of matters relating to buttermaking ; so that the existence of a third association to look after buttermaking interests exclusively would only mean an unnecessary expenditure of time, money, and energy.

And as in the new scheme it is proposed that there shall be two associations covering all dairying interests, both buttermaking and cheesemaking, and, therefore, that two conventions shall be held each year, one in the east and one in the west, it follows that buttermakers will find the new plan more convenient to them than the present one ; because, as things now are, only one convention of buttermakers is held each year, so that every year either the eastern buttermakers or the western buttermakers are put to great inconvenience by having to go a very great distance to attend their convention.

And as there will be a saving of inconvenience to the members by the proposed plan, so also will there be a saving of expense and time in providing the necessary instruction for the makers, inas-

much as under the new plan it will be arranged that the instructors sent out shall be competent to give instruction in both buttermaking and cheesemaking.

Furthermore, as is pointed out in the Minister's letter, there will be a great saving of expense. In 1895 the expense of holding the three annual conventions amounted, in round numbers, to \$1,350. By holding only two conventions, a saving of one-third of this amount would be gained at once, that is, of \$450. In addition, the directors' expenses for that year amounted, in round numbers, to \$690. But if there were only two associations there would be at once a saving of one-third of this amount, or \$230. Or, if we take as our standard the expenses of the directors of the Western Association, where there is a permanent secretary, who is employed to devote his whole time to the work of the association, which expenses amounted to only about \$95, there would be a saving under the new plan in directors' fees of about \$500. Again, the total office expenses of the three associations are, in round numbers, \$260 ; while the total expenses for officers' salaries, exclusive of instruction, are estimated at about \$900. So that we have here a total of over \$2,100, which either in savings or in amounts now actually spent in officers' salaries and office expenses, would be available for the purpose of defraying the salary and office expenses of a competent joint secretary, who, as proposed by the Minister, should take charge of the whole work of the two new associations, and devote his entire time, energy, and ability to the promotion of the dairy interests of the province as a whole. It is estimated that \$1,400 will be enough for this purpose ; so that here is a net saving of expenses of at least \$700.

Turning now to the revenue, we find that the total amount received for 1895 from the Government grants, and from members' fees, was, in round numbers, \$7,900. Allowing \$1,400 of this for the permanent secretary's salary and expenses, as above stated, and \$1,300, which it is estimated will be sufficient for the holding of two annual conventions and the expenses of two boards of directors, or \$2,700 in all, there would be \$5,200 left for the purpose of instruction.

In 1895 the sum of \$5,832 was expended in instruction, but of this sum \$2,664 was made up by fines and fees from factories, so that out of the Government grants and membership fees there was only \$3,168 actually spent in instruction. Comparing this sum with the \$5,200 which the new plan affords, we see that out of Government grants and membership fees alone there is an actual gain under the proposed plan of over \$2,000 in