

aid of creamery work. Twelve thousand dollars goes towards establishing a dry farming experimentation station; \$20,000 towards the destruction of noxious weeds; \$14,500 to encourage dairy work, etc.

Development on the Pacific Coast.

British Columbia, which spent \$74,063.39 for agriculture in the fiscal year 1909-10, has voted over two hundred thousand dollars for the year ending March 31st, 1912. Of this agricultural associations get \$78,500; \$15,000 goes towards demonstrations of spraying and fruit packing in orchards; a similar sum is paid to the Farmers' Institutes; \$10,000 is voted to aid fruit exhibitions.

Canadians Give Over Three Millions to the Farmer.

Summing up and taking the totals for the Dominion and the provinces, it is found that the people of Canada expend approximately the large sum of \$3,300,000 per annum to bonus the farming industry, and that this sum is being increased very considerably each year. That the money is well spent, and that it is paid out ungrudgingly goes without saying. The increased productivity of the farms, the growing efficiency of the farmers, the improved quality of farm produce, the achievements of the agricultural colleges and the experimental farms all testify to the value of the work undertaken by the various Governments of the country in the interests of the farming community.

Shall These Three Millions be Wasted?

The point is, however, that all this vast expenditure of money and brains by the State in aid of Canadian agriculture should be taken into account before any final decision is made on any fiscal question affecting the interests of the whole country. The public are prone to regard the farmer as standing in a position of isolation, unconsidered heretofore when tariffs have been framed. On the contrary, there is no industry in Canada which has received such intensive and extensive financial treatment from the Government as this same farming industry. It has been bonused to an extent unknown before, and no one has objected.

Do Not Court Invasion.

Further, what effect will reciprocity in natural products have on this phase of the situation? Can the farmer or the people as a whole afford to have the country spend its millions to improve agricultural conditions, and then find its markets invaded by foreign producers, and all its educative work made of no avail? This is a possibility which should not be overlooked.