

leges to home-made butter as they propose to extend to the creamery butter. The practice of bonussing exports is one which I do not think can be defended in the interests of any class of the community.

Mr. MONTAGUE. The Ontario Government purchased butter and cheese.

Mr. CASEY. If the hon. gentleman says that the Ontario Government purchased butter and cheese for export he is stating what is directly contrary to the fact. If he says they purchased it for use in their own institutions, of course he is right, because they do not starve the people there.

Mr. MONTAGUE. My hon. friend is entirely wrong. The Ontario Government did purchase more butter and cheese to place on the market at the time of the Colonial Exhibition, than we have purchased, and they spent more money in it.

Mr. CASEY. They did purchase butter and cheese for exhibition at the Colonial Exhibition, but that is entirely a different thing.

Mr. MONTAGUE. It was for the same purpose of establishing a market.

Mr. CASEY. I leave it to the House if anything more absurd has ever been stated, even by the Secretary of State. He says it is the same thing to buy butter and cheese and send it to the exhibition for the purpose of showing the products of the country, as it is to set up a butter market in Montreal, and buy butter from favoured parties and sell it at a loss of 4 cents a pound in England. Every Government buys certain products for an exhibition, and they may be sold to meet the expenses of the exhibition; but that is not keeping a butter shop, or a grease shop for an election either, which the hon. gentleman is perhaps better acquainted with.

The proposal to bonus butter (which he is not plucky enough to make, although he applauds it in the case of Australia) is simply a proposal that the whole of the population of Canada should pay for cheap butter for the people of England. It will not increase the price of butter in England, but the people of Canada will be obliged to pay a part of the price which the English consumer ought to pay for his butter. That is what a bonus to an export means. That is what it means when we give a bonus to the Masseys for exporting their goods out of Canada. If they sell their goods in Canada, they have to pay duty on their materials, but if they sell them out of Canada the duty is returned to them, and we pay for the cheap goods which are sold in Australia and the Cape of Good Hope, and all over the world. The hon. gentleman forgets to tell us that we are bonussing a line of steamboats to carry the bonussed Australian butter, to which he refers, across the Pacific and Atlantic, and to send it to England in com-

Mr. CASEY.

petition with our Canadian butter. Perhaps he will tell us that that is in the interest of the farmers. The farmers are not the class of thickheads and mossbacks and way-backs which the Government imagine them to be. They are not open to such arguments as were advanced by the Secretary of State to-night, and they can easily see into any attempt which the Government make to hoodwink them.

Mr. SMITH (South Ontario). I have listened to-night to the discussion on this item about granting the sum of \$3,000 for the purpose of promoting the dairy interests of Canada, and I must confess that not one single gentleman on the opposite side of the House has had the moral courage to say that he is opposed to that grant. They have talked around it in every shape and form, but not one of them dare say he is opposed to this grant of \$3,000. I have no doubt, Mr. Chairman, that the keenness of the competition in the English market, and the difficulties of placing our butter of a uniform quality on the market, have weighed with the Government in placing this vote in the Supplementary Estimates. There is a feeling growing, not only in Canada, but in different portions of Europe, that the European countries have nearly reached the maximum of their production; and it remains to be seen whether the Canadian people will be able to take advantage of the English market as they should, and whether they will be able to overtake again what they have lost. I can scarcely understand the statements made by hon. gentlemen on the other side of the House, who say that the Dominion Government has done nothing to promote the cheese industry. It is true, in Ontario the farmer had to help himself to a great extent; but will the hon. gentleman say that in the province of Quebec, and in the maritime provinces, particularly in Prince Edward Island, the Government have done nothing to help this industry? Why, to-day there are about 28 cheese factories and two creameries at work in Prince Edward Island, and it is stated that the new system, as compared with the old, will make a difference of \$50,000 to the farmers of that province, which would make up many times over the \$3,000 that is asked for in the Estimates. Before I sit down I want to congratulate hon. gentlemen opposite on becoming protectionists. The hon. member for North Wellington (Mr. McMullen) stated that he was not altogether in favour of cold storage, and would rather grant a bonus to the Canadian butter producer. I am a protectionist, and I do not care whether protection is given in the shape of cold storage or duty or bounty, so long as it is given. Hon. gentlemen opposite seem to have had a conclave lately, and seem to have decided that they must do something in the interests of the Canadian farmers, for they sent out a circular asking them what