

Our years of signal disaster and depression were those in which our ports were most easily flooded with foreign goods.

and Commerce has not been dilatory in attending to the interests of the farmers. In 1893 it issued a circular giving valuable information and advice as to "Hay for export." The commercial agents in the West Indies and British Guiana sent in reports showing how Canadian flour, meats, cheese, etc., would find a market in those countries, and explaining the local requirements. The commercial agent for Norway, Sweden and Denmark reported similarly. In 1894, Sir Charles Tupper, then High Commissioner in England, and his staff, sent in reports showing the opening in the United Kingdom for Canadian farm products, dealing especially with hay, bacon and hams, horses, poultry and eggs.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

The manufacture of binding twine at Kingston penitentiary has been successfully established, the twine finding ready sale in Ontario, Manitoba and the North West Territories and giving satisfaction. This manufacture not only obviates any danger of a combine in the trade but it will also establish on trustworthy data the cost and true value of a genuine article.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

There has been considerable expenditure by the Department of Public Works in dredging harbours and their approaches, opening docks, building and maintaining wharves, and constructing graving docks. In unison with the Departments of Marine and Railways and Canals, it has contributed to facilitate navigation and the carriage of our surplus farm products, thus lowering freights to the advantage of the farmer.

PRIVY COUNCIL DEPARTMENT.

The North-West Mounted Police who are under the control of the Privy Council Department, besides their general duties of protecting life and property and enforcing order, are constantly patrolling the long frontier line of the international boundary and keeping a watch upon the less civilized Indians, so that thefts of horses and cattle are extremely rare crimes, not as in most sparsely settled countries. The quarantine service is also confided to them and efficiently performed so as to secure the immunity from contagious diseases enjoyed by the flocks and herds of that portion of the Dominion in common with the rest of Canada. Their Veterinary staff keep a

watchful guard on the health of the cattle throughout the country.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

The staff of the Geological Survey afford valuable information as to the soils of various parts of the country. The botanists contribute to the knowledge not only of the soil but of the climate as shown by the vegetation. Discoveries of mineral fertilizers, such as phosphates, marls, etc., are also made by the survey. The staff have been superintending the successful sinking of artesian wells in that small part of the Canadian prairie where there is insufficient surface water.

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER IN ENGLAND.

As High Commissioner, Sir Charles Tupper devoted much of his time and energy to the service of the Agricultural interest of Canada. For a long time, by his active intervention, he warded off the constant efforts to schedule Canadian cattle in the interest of the British stock raiser. He persistently sought to place the farm and dairy produce of Canada more advantageously on the British market. By the treaty with France which he assisted to negotiate Canadian fruits, fresh and preserved, canned meats and condensed milk are admitted on exceptionally favorable terms.

PARLIAMENT.

Under Conservative leadership the Parliament of Canada, besides the legislation already mentioned, has passed many acts of especial interest for farmers. Among these are laws to prevent fraud in the manufacture and sale of agricultural fertilizers, to prevent the manufacture and sale of oleomargarine, butterine and other substitutes for butter, to protect cheese and butter factories from fraud, to establish a "Bureau of Labour Statistics" with "Agriculture" as its first subject, to aid beet-root sugar growing, to provide for the proper fitting and inspection of cattle vessels, to prevent the manufacture and sale of filled or imitation cheese and to provide for branding cheese, to provide for the inspection of grain, cheese, apples, hay, &c., and to facilitate the irrigation of land in the North-West.

Beside select committees on the operation of the tariff on the agricultural interest, and on the best means of encouraging and de-

Free Traders advocate a policy which gives foreigners equal privileges with the Canadian citizen