

help reading to the House a few words which came with authority from my hon. friend (Mr. Oliver), but in another character from that of member of Parliament; and at the same time it is only just to say that these words were written on 25th January, before these regulations came into existence. I am not going to say that there is any inconsistency between what he said to-night and what is written here by him, but the principle laid down as to how we in the west should regard our stock interest so entirely meets my approval that I call the attention of the House to it. His opinion is thus stated:

The Winnipeg "Commercial" is at a loss to discover the reasons for the opposition raised by some to the removal or modification of the quarantine regulation. To put the matter in another way, this leading commercial paper, representing the interests of Western Canada, does not know any reason why the quarantine regulations which have been, at least nominally, in force for a number of years without protest from any one in the west, were framed. Possibly there was no reason for them. At any rate, they existed and were approved by those interested. This being the case, it should need more than the word of Dr. McEachren that they were not wanted by the western stockmen, to cause their removal. There should be a reason shown for their removal before reasons against it are called for, and before removal takes place. It may be that the stockmen want these restrictions retained for their mere selfish interest, just as the merchants, or millers, or farmers of Manitoba might want something for their special interest. And if there were no other reason, this would be good enough to warrant full consideration before action is taken.

Well now, Sir, in regard to that I have to say, that the stockmen of Assiniboia still fear that the results of these regulations will be disastrous to them.

The stockmen of Alberta and British Columbia are absolutely unanimous on this question, so far as heard from, with the solitary exception of Dr. McEachren, who, as the hired servant of the Government, anxious to hold a lucrative job, is not unprejudiced evidence. It is possible that the stockmen of the west may want something that they cannot or should not have. But, at any rate, their interest is of sufficient importance from a national standpoint to warrant their being consulted in the matter; and if their interests cannot be conserved directly, some alleviating or compensating arrangement might be made. For the information of the "Commercial," and of the Government as well, the "Bulletin" begs to remark that this is the way to make the country prosperous, and also to win western elections.

I quite agree with that sentiment. I think that the way to make a country prosperous is to legislate or to order in council in such a way as will be in the interest of the great staples of the North-west. And the writer adds:

Something that the Liberal party has only begun to make a record in.

That is to say, legislating in a way to make the country prosperous, and also to win

Mr. DAVIN.

western elections is something the Liberal party has only begun to make a record in. Well, Sir, it is quite clear that I have shown in this debate an impartiality that even transcends that of my hon. friend (Mr. Oliver). He commenced by saying that he spoke without any party proclivity—and we know he has none—and that there would be nothing of a political character in what he might say, and he carefully guarded himself lest what fell from him should condemn the Government. Here am I, an open foe, and I advocate the very course the hon. gentleman (Mr. Oliver) says is the way to make the country prosperous, and to make a record for the Liberal Government in the manner in which they have only recently begun. Let it come in whatever form it may, I welcome the powerful aid of my hon. friend (Mr. Oliver), and after the discussion we have had, I have to express my regret that the hon. the Minister of Agriculture is not here. I have no doubt there is a good reason for his absence, and I suppose he will read what has been said in "Hansard" and take heed of it. It is clear that a case has been made out for the Government to consider the question as regards sheep. We have the positive statement of the hon. member (Mr. Oliver), that in regard to sheep and horses quarantine was necessary; although he thought that in regard to cattle it was unnecessary. The hon. gentleman (Mr. Oliver) pointed out, that the quarantine regulations for protecting the country against diseased sheep coming across the line, were not sufficient. As the hon. gentleman has shown, in the United States, and probably in other countries where large interests are involved, nothing is easier than to get a certificate of the kind now required. The point I wish to make most strongly in regard to cattle is this: that an effective check on the inroad of cattle to our ranches has been removed, and unless the Government intends to give us some substitute for that check, the result will be that our sheepmen and stockmen will suffer, and their ranches will suffer because of the attraction that these ranches have for the cattle south of the line.

Mr. DAVIS (Saskatchewan). Mr. Speaker, as I come from a constituency in the North-west Territories, it is not perhaps out of place that I should say a few words upon this important question. One would think, after listening to my hon. friend from Assiniboia (Mr. Davin) that he was the only representative in this House from the North-west Territories. He has told us of the number of letters he has received in connection with this matter from one end of the Territories to the other, but I must say, that although I represent a large district in the Territories, I have not received one letter on this subject. The people in my district are perfectly satisfied with the quarantine regulations as they are to-day, because they have