

Q. You mean the quantity?—A. Yes. It was over 200 million pounds then, and last year it was 85 million pounds.

Q. But we were shipping cream and milk and everything else to the United States, until they cut our throats.—A. Even that did not revive the cheese industry.

By Hon. Mr. Gillis:

Q. At the prevailing prices of butter and cheese, would it be more profitable to manufacture cheese instead of butter?—A. At the moment, no, when butter is high and cheese is not so high. Butter will no doubt fall in the next few weeks, but I can only suggest to you that if cheese were really more profitable than butter, more farmers would make it.

By Hon. Mr. Pope:

Q. Our cheese is shipped too green; it is not matured.—A. Some of it.

Q. The Englishman likes matured cheese.

By Hon. Mr. Sharpe:

Q. Are you getting what you consider a fair price for your milk now? One sees a great deal of complaint about it in the papers.—A. I remember getting \$4 per 100 pounds for milk and complaining about it. I do not think you can eliminate requests for higher prices by raising prices. That is really a very involved question. I do not know whether it is a fair price or not. I am taking it and breaking even.

Q. Are you making any money out of it?—A. I am making operating wages, repairs and taxes, but no interest whatsoever.

Q. Then it is not a fair price?—A. Is anybody else making interest, in a broad way, in the country?

Q. We are talking of this industry now.

By Hon. Mr. Horner:

Q. Do you think that you are receiving more from your milk and your cows than if you were shipping cream?—A. Yes.

By Hon. Mr. Sinclair:

Q. What does \$4 represent on the butter fat basis, per pound?—A. Eighty cents.

By Hon. Mr. Horner:

Q. We hear a lot about price spreads, unethical business methods, and so on. Would you care to say what price you believe the farmer should receive for his cream in order that he could pay living wages and have wages for himself?—A. No, sir, I certainly would not be prepared to make any such statement, because I have no idea to what extent such regulation as you suggest would affect the farmers' costs, both direct and indirect; and having no means of knowing that, I could not say whether a proposed price would be fair or not. To say that a certain price would be fair if conditions remained the same, is meaningless, because conditions would not remain the same.

By Hon. Mr. Gillis:

Q. The inquiry in the other House last year was in connection with the profits made by middlemen. I suppose you know the average price for milk per quart in Montreal and other cities?—A. Quite well.

Q. What is the difference between that and what you receive for it, roughly?—A. Oh, roughly twenty-six cents or twenty-seven cents a gallon spread.