

"34,283 barrels and 2,617 half barrels of herring were imported into the Port of Montreal in 1883, all bearing the official inspection of Newfoundland, and all stamped No. 1 herring. Of these 18,435 barrels and 2,061 half barrels were inspected, and the following is the result :

No. 1.		No. 2.		No. 3.		Rusty.		Rotten.		Empty.		Small.	
B.	½ B.	B.	½ B.	B.	½ B.	B.	½ B.	B.	½ B.	B.	½ B.	B.	½ B.
557	117	14912	1695	1,572	137	456	40	26	3	165	18	717	51.

These facts, in my opinion, and in the opinion of the fishermen, prove that justice at last has been obtained at last for our fishermen. Look at the state of affairs before this Act came into operation this spring. Our fishermen supported the National Policy, and they think many things are very high. On the other hand, the Government must give to all industries the protection they require. I do not hide my opinion; I never did. I would not have gone for protection alone, but I supported the National Policy. Our fishermen, I say, have supported the National Policy. The fishermen of Newfoundland have no National Policy. The fiscal laws there are only to collect a revenue sufficient for the Government needs, and consequently the people can live cheaper than we do. The Liberal Government, in 1874,—and it was a Free Trade Government acting according to their ideas—allowed Newfoundland fish to come into the Dominion, not only without paying duty, but without inspection; and, of course, plenty of herring came in, but it was Newfoundland herring. Our fishermen were thereby placed in an unfair position, because the market was glutted with Newfoundland fish. But this year buyers found the Newfoundland fish so bad, that they gave large orders for Canadian herring, and several cargoes of Canso herring, which is properly inspected, were imported into Montreal. If a merchant wants No. 1. or No. 2, he can order it, and he is sure of getting it now. This is the result of the Government measure. I approve of it, and the fishermen also approve of it, and I, and they, hope the Government will stick to their policy. I know there are merchants, especially commission merchants, who would like to see that law revoked, because a commission merchant is essentially a Free Trader. The more barrels of fish that pass through his hands, the more money he makes; he does not care much about our fishermen. I emphatically say that all those who have studied this matter—and all the fishermen—endorse the Government's measure, and hope they will stick to it. In making this request we do not ask much. At the present time Newfoundland levies a pretty heavy duty on flour and other products sent from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and other parts of the Dominion. The only product they can send here is fish. They say: "We allow Canadian fish to come in Newfoundland duty free." But to send fish there would be like sending coals to Newcastle. So I hope the Government will maintain the attitude they have taken, and do something in other directions—to aid the fishermen and give them means to live and properly support their families in this country. Let me add these few words. There is in no other part of the world a fishing population so hardy and patriotic as is the Maritime population of Canada, and it is matter for regret that at the present day many of them have to resort to the neighbouring country to get their living. I regret to have to state that such is the case, although so many do not go as is represented. Let the Government not only protect the herring trade, but promote, in every possible way, the fishing industry, so as to furnish employment to our people.

Mr. KAULBACH. The position in which we in this Dominion have been placed in respect to the article of pickled fish in packages coming from Newfoundland, has

been a source of serious dissatisfaction for some time to our fishing industry, fishermen, and fish traders; and it is very desirable, in the interest of the Maritime Provinces, that all Newfoundland pickled fish, imported into this Dominion, should be subjected to the same laws and regulations as respects our own catch—whether they had been inspected previously in Newfoundland or otherwise; or, in other words, that they should undergo inspection. This is necessary, otherwise the imperfect inspection of the imported article would interfere materially with our own prices at home, and when re-shipped and competing in a foreign market with our own, would naturally tend to very injuriously affect the price of our fish, notwithstanding our own being a genuine and better article. Apart from the reasons thus advanced, one would naturally ask what reasonable right have we to admit their fish into our ports free of inspection, when they tax us in the shape of duty upon every article of produce we transmit to them from our shores. It will be remembered that, under the Mackenzie Government, pickled fish was imported free of inspection and free of duty as well. Whilst speaking of the inconveniences from the importation of uninspected pickled fish from Newfoundland, I would ask this House if it would not be advisable to legislate also on the article of dried fish imported into this Dominion from that island, and have it subjected to an inspection as well; my object being to limit or lessen the importation of the article to our own ports, and thus to a certain extent protect the prices of our own in our home markets. Last year Newfoundland exported largely to the port of Lunenburg—a part of the constituency I have the honour to represent—and which materially reduced the prices of the article in our own market to the sacrifice of our poor fishermen. I might say, whilst on my feet, that I made a request in the last Session of the last Parliament, or the Session that I last attended, for a fish bounty to the fishermen of the Maritime Provinces. And I made an appeal to-day that the sum for distribution be increased. I feel satisfied that as the Government accorded me the request in the first instance when I asked it, they will treat me similarly in this case, and thus confer on the hard worked sons of toil, the fishermen, subjected as they are to so many risks and privations, a right as well as a benefit they so richly deserve.

Motion agreed to.

TREATISES ON AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY.

Mr. GIGAULT, (Translation) in moving for copies of all "petitions to the Minister of Agriculture, praying that prizes be awarded for the best essays, treatises or other literary works on agricultural industry and mechanical arts, and that pamphlets and essays on agricultural industry and mechanical arts be circulated among the farmers and artisans, said: Mr. Speaker, it is an acknowledged fact that the existence of our agricultural schools has had a good deal to do with the improvement of the art of agriculture in this country; but, unfortunately, only a very limited number of students are admitted to these institutions. Could we not—ought we not to generalize, to a larger extent, the study of the agricultural science? Such is the question which I submit to the House, and which, owing to its importance, I should like to have discussed by others better able than I am to do it justice. In 1876, the French Government ordered an investigation to be made on the state and wants of agriculture. Information was gathered in foreign countries, and it was found that wherever agricultural science had been diffused, agricultural industry had progressed in proportion to the diffusion of that science. In fact, it is to be remarked that all the most enlightened Governments of Europe are trying to propagate this science. Thus, it is seen that in Germany there are 158 agricultural academies and 55 experimental farms. The managers of these farms distribute among the farmers, reports of all the experiments made on such farms,