

encouragement of sheep-raising; in other words, a man's dog cannot be destroyed unless he is compensated for its loss. Every man who kills his dog ought to be given a sheep in exchange. I believe that if the people could only be shown the great advantages and profit of sheep-raising they would at once exterminate the dogs. In addition to the foregoing, the Government propose, during this summer, to have a thorough investigation made into the whole question of the possibilities of peat as fuel, with a view of assisting people in having fuel near their own homes. This will render it unnecessary in many places to keep dogs. You might find out the number of dogs now in the country, and have a map prepared showing the districts in the Island where dogs are prohibited, and where they are still allowed. This might be tabulated, to show the number in each district. You will also want to report upon the best breeds of sheep most suitable for this country, a hardy breed to withstand our climate. When in Canada you could also make enquiries as to the possibilities of establishing woollen mills in this Colony in connection with sheep-raising. Information upon this point could be obtained by personal interview, as well as by correspondence with leading firms in this line of business both in Canada and England. The Government propose taking up with the Superintendents of Education and also with the Council of Higher Education the question of having a Primer on Agriculture included in the curriculum of our public schools; also the question of identifying the teachers with the Agricultural Societies by allowing them a small annual amount to act as Secretaries; also the question of establishing scholarships for the most proficient students on the subject of Agriculture; as well as Scholarships for the most proficient students on the subject of Agriculture; as well as Scholarships for the best pupil-teachers on that branch. You might also

make enquiries in Canada as to Agricultural Societies there.

Railway and Steamship Rates.

Enquiry should be made into the whole question of rates by steamers and trains at present charged for the conveyance of cattle and farm products, and whether, if the rates were lowered, it would give a stimulus to agricultural development. You might point out cases in which the high rates of transportation for agricultural products prevent a broader development along this particular line. I intend to take this matter up with Messrs. Bowring Brothers, and the Reid Newfoundland Company upon my return from England, with a view of having the whole question dealt with. I am quite satisfied that the high transportation charges are responsible for seriously hampering agricultural development.

There are very many other matters that I should like to go into in this letter of instruction in detail, but as I am leaving by the train to-morrow I am right in the midst of work, and can only jot down, without preparation, a few headings. As I have already said, however, I have gone into this matter with you on several occasions exhaustively and in detail, and this letter will serve as a sufficient guide to you for your work. I am a great believer in what can be done by an up-to-date progressive and vigorous Agricultural Policy; a policy that will touch every district, every settlement, and every home, if possible, in the country. We have three million dollars (\$3,000,000) leaving the country every year for agricultural products, and the greater part of this amount, in my judgment, might easily be kept in the country. An effort will now be made to accomplish that object, with what result time will best show.

With best wishes, I remain.

Yours faithfully,

E. P. MORRIS.

[NOTE.—The other appendices have not been published.]