

The Address—Mr. Armstrong (Lambton)

eggs produced, the average value per dozen and the total value of the production. I would like to have this statement placed on Hansard

because I think it is of value to hon. members of the House. The statement is as follows:

PRODUCTION AND VALUE OF FARM EGGS IN CANADA, 1921-1925

Year	Egg-producing hens on farms	Average production per hen	Total eggs produced	Average value per dozen	Total value of eggs produced
	No.	No.	dozen	cents	\$
1921.....	25,755,356	78	168,049,154	25	40,968,841
1922.....	29,945,484	78	194,058,468	25	48,490,578
1923.....	31,064,992	78	202,186,508	24	48,770,780
1924.....	32,220,057	79	212,648,685	24	50,322,439
1925.....	32,837,040	82	224,778,867	26	57,950,340

NOTE.—The Indian Reserves are included for the years 1923 to 1925, but not for 1921 and 1922.

Why not protect this industry?

I have here a statement with respect to Alberta creamery butter. I can well remember when we were shipping carloads of butter, poultry and eggs from old Ontario to the western provinces and British Columbia. But what do we find now? We find the western butter coming down into old Ontario and helping to take care of the home market in that province, and western eggs and western poultry doing the same thing. For instance, I remember purchasing cars of turkeys a couple of years ago, and a few days before Christmas we received a telegram from the west stating that dozens of carloads of turkeys were coming down. Immediately the price dropped 12 to 15 cents a pound in old Ontario. I am not saying these things to create the impression that I object to what the west is doing, but I ask hon. members to be fair and reasonable in regard to this matter and to remember that the farmers of old Ontario and Quebec have a right to expect reasonable treatment at the hands of the men from the west. Let us see what happened in 1925. I refer to Hansard March 30, 1925, page 1642, where I find that the hon. member for New Westminster (Mr. McQuarrie) asked certain questions with regard to eggs. The questions and answers follow:

Mr. McQuarrie:

1. Is the government aware that large shipments of American and Chinese eggs have recently arrived in Canada and have appreciably decreased the price of Eggs in Canada, as reported in the Vancouver Province of March 8, 1925?

2. Have any representations been received by the government, as to the unfair competition confronting Canadian poultrymen by reason of the fact that the duty on eggs entering the United States from Canada is 8 cents, and the duty on eggs entering Canada from the United States is only 3 cents per dozen?

3. If so, from whom have such representations been received?

[Mr. J. E. Armstrong.]

4. Does the government contemplate any, and what action, to effectively meet the situation complained of?

5. Have any representations been received by the government, as to the necessity for a proper system of egg marking to distinguish Canadian from American and Chinese eggs, when same are placed on the Canadian market?

6. If so, from whom have such representations been received?

7. Does the government contemplate any, and what action, to effectively meet the situation complained of?

Hon. Mr. Motherwell:

1. Yes, but such imports are decreasing as is evidenced by the figures given below:

Fiscal year	United States	Chinese
1923	8,256,168 dozen	nil
1924	6,454,313 dozen	nil
*1925	2,429,655 dozen	**75,000 dozen

\* April 1, 1924, March 23, 1925.

\*\*Two other cars (30,000 dozens) of Chinese eggs arrived but failed to pass inspection and were refused entry.

2. Yes.

3. The Surrey Farmers' Institute, Cloverdale, B.C., and the Record of Performance Poultry Breeders' Association of Ontario.

4. The question of meeting this situation from a tariff standpoint has not been discussed. Regulations are at present in force respecting the marking and grading of eggs under the Live Stock and Live Stock Products Act, and Clauses 5, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 and 31, of these regulations cover foreign eggs imported into Canada.

5. Yes.

6. The Surrey Farmers' Institute Cloverdale, B.C.

7. Identification of foreign eggs entering Canada is provided for in Clauses 27 and 29 of the regulations referred to in answer No. 4. Action, other than the policy embodied in these two sections has not been contemplated.

This merely goes to show what enormous quantities of these eggs come in to help to undermine the egg market in Canada. Do hon. members really believe that the farmers of Canada have no right to that egg market, have they not just as much right to it as our manufacturers have to the home market for their manufactured products? The farmers