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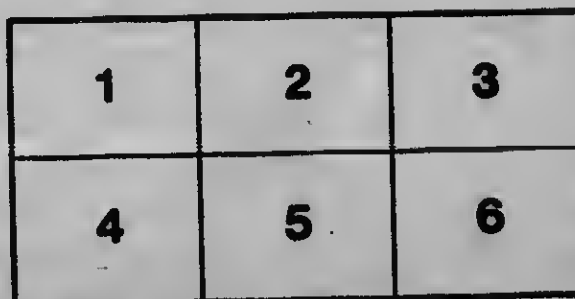
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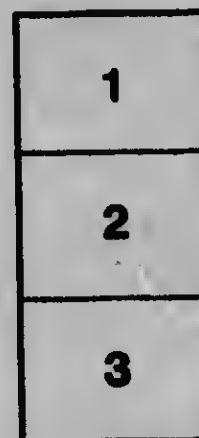
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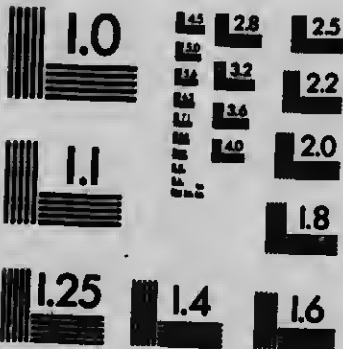
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LIBERAL POLICY
AND PRACTICE
FOR AGRICULTURE



Work of the Departmental Offices.
Agricultural Trade.
Free Rural Mail Delivery.
The Cattle Embargo.

Liberal Policy and Practice for Agriculture

Farming Conditions under Two Regimes

It will be remembered that before 1896 the value of rural property was very low. Farmers found it difficult to dispose of their farms, although their business was in such a state as to tempt them to do so. The profits of farming then were almost nothing. The draft from the country to the city was great, and in those days the course lay to the cities of the United States, and the best young blood of Canada was helping to build up our rival. Then the agricultural exports of the United States largely dominated the English market because they had better means of transportation to the market, and a better reputation in it. Canadian farm products, with the exception of cheese, were hardly known as such in the English market. Australia and New Zealand had efficient mechanical cold storage, placing their perishable food products on the English market in good condition, notwithstanding seven thousand miles of voyage through the tropics. Canadian butter, cheese, fruits and meats were carelessly handled by the shipping companies without supervision, and there was no proper accommodation on the ships to prevent injury to them.

In 1896 sales of Canadian cattle were almost impossible. The embargo in England prevented our store cattle going into that market; the quarantine arrangements prevented our young cattle and dairy stock being admitted to the United States. In the depressed condition of our own agricultural and our own market there was no sale for these in Canada. The farmers were going out of the breeding of horses, because there was no market for them anywhere. By the enterprise of our Ontario dairymen, Canada, under the difficulties as to transportation, was sending to England a considerable amount of cheese of fair quality which she was selling at a fair price. No progress had been made in the trade in butter, and as a matter of fact much less butter was exported in the ten years previous to 1896, than there was in the ten years before that date.

In the ten years 1877-86, total exports of butter were. \$22,706,360
In next ten years 1887-96, total exports of butter were. 8,250,088

Decrease\$14,456 272

In sharp contrast to the Conservative period (1887-1896) is the ten years under Liberal Government (1897-1906), when the butter exports amounted to\$46,599,783

For the twelve years under the Liberals the exports of butter were 51,680,095

This failure under the preceding Conservative administration was due to the fact that in their day our butter had to be forwarded in common freight

cars, and in ordinary stowage on the vessels, and in England had to meet the competition of American and Australian butter delivered on the English market by means of well equipped and up-to-date cold storage transport.

Similarly, under these adverse conditions, there was a very small export of bacon and hams, the production of which is a natural adjunct of the dairy industry. The total export of bacon and hams was in the ten years ending 30th of June, 1896, only \$17,671,000, as against \$115,000,000 in the ten years ending 30th of June, 1906.

Contrast the state of affairs previous to 1896, with the present condition of our farming business. We have now a complete equipment of cold storage transportation for our perishable food products. The mechanical cold storage in the ships from Canada to Great Britain is the most modern and best in the world. Our refrigerator car system, started and helped by the Government, provides perfect condition of carriage from the interior to the ship's side. Refrigeration at the creameries and local stores through the country has been encouraged and stimulated. There is a complete systematic supervision of the handling of Canadian food products and their transit from the point of production to the steamer in England, resulting in very careful handling and proper stowage with a complete system of checking, which keeps the transportation companies up to the mark, and prevents that damage to these delicate products, which in the old days was one of the chief reasons for their bad reputation in the English market. The result has been that our goods are placed before the English consumer in their original prime quality, and have made a reputation which has brought about the splendid increased prices so evident during the last few years, and has occasioned a ready sale of everything we have to send there.

CHEESE INDUSTRY FOSTERED AND STIMULATED.

The cheese trade of Canada has always been a large interest. In the old days, it progressed under difficulties by the private enterprise of the Ontario factorymen with the help of the Provincial Government. Now, the trade has expanded over a large portion of Canada, and has increased, in the twelve years ending June 30th, 1906, \$120,178,904, the total export for the twelve years ending 30th of June, 1896, being \$127,611,428 against \$247,790,332 for the twelve years ending 30th of June, 1908. This is due to improvement in factory education along the lines of better curing-rooms and methods, and assistance in the discovery of causes of defects; to improved facilities in the transportation, and to the increased knowledge spread in the British market of Canadian methods and Canadian goods. A revolution in the curing of cheese has been brought about by the large experiments conducted by the Department in cool-curing. The full effects of these have not yet been attained. The finances of the various factories have not enabled them to make the necessary changes everywhere, but a distinct impression on the British market has been made by the cool-cured cheese, and the high price in the last few years of all Canadian cheese is undoubtedly due to the greatly improved quality of this cool-cured cheese. When all the factories of Canada adopt this method, there is no doubt that the result will be an actual increase in the market value in Great Britain of all Canadian cheese. In the year ending March 31st last (1908), we exported cheese of the value of \$22,887,237. If the improved methods of curing above mentioned were generally adopted, the increased price of this cheese would be about one-half cent per pound. The Department has found out how to do this, and has pointed the way. Many of the cheese makers followed; it remains for the rest of them to join in the movement, and the above result will come. Already a large proportion of it has come.

BUTTER.

The exports of butter for the twelve years under Liberal rule amounted to 259,655,811 lbs., as compared with 57,247,699 lbs. for the last twelve years under Conservative administration.

The butter industry has also made great progress. Here, the results in the export trade do not indicate so completely the improvement. Canada is not a cheese-eating country. Any increase in the cheese production or quality is shown at once in the export. Canada, is however, a large butter-eating country, and the improvement in the butter production, due to the spread of knowledge and better methods and better bandling of the cows, is found more on the tables of the Canadian people than in the export figures. Still, our butter export has largely increased of late years.

There is no doubt that the improved cold storage transportation is largely the cause of the splendid increase in the butter trade. It is, however, also noticeable that wherever one goes to-day in Canada good butter is placed before them in homes or on hotel tables, which is largely due to the instruction given by the Federal Department, as well as the Local Departments of Agriculture in the different provinces. A great awakening has undoubtedly taken place among the farmers, especially in the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, and in the butter trade this is more evident than in cheese.

Before giving further details in regard to the various branches of the Department of Agriculture, let us examine the views and criticisms of Conservative members of Parliament.

Liberal Policy and Practice in the Expenditure of Public Moneys for Agriculture

During the last session of Parliament Mr. Andrew Broder, the Conservative member for Dundas, spoke as follows in regard to Liberal expenditure for agriculture: "Let us now call attention to the fact that while we have spent one-half million dollars during the past year on agriculture, we have seen fit to spend \$4,294,124.62 on militia and defence, chargeable to income, and \$1,299,875.65 chargeable to capital account, or a total of \$5,594,000.27 on militia and defence."

We do not propose in this pamphlet to deal with the militia expenditure which has been regularly approved by the House of Commons, and upon which no division has been challenged. However, the accusation that the Liberal Government are not spending enough on agriculture seems to come with bad grace from a party which has the following record of expenditure on agriculture. Moreover, Mr. Broder has understated the agricultural expenditure.

We have taken from the Auditor-General's reports for each year the items of expenditure for agriculture during the last twelve years of Conservative rule and the last twelve years under the Liberals as shown in the following statement.

The first column in this statement shows the expenditure for the purchase of lands and buildings for experimental farms and repairs on them in subsequent years. The total expenditure under this heading is kept separate from the other expenditure which is detailed somewhat in the other columns and summed up in the last column. An example of what is meant by the heading termed "Other Expenditure," in the fourth column, will be seen in the details which we will immediately afterwards give for the two fiscal years 1895-1896 and 1907-1908.

YEARS	Exp. Farms, Lands, Buildings Repairs, &c.	Exp. Farms Maintenance	Health of Animals	Other Expenditure	Totals Excluding Lands, Buildings and repairs
1884-85	\$.....	\$.....	\$ 34,434		\$ 34,434
1885-86	.....	.....	30,741	\$ 9,860	40,801
1886-87	91,543	.....	71,556	.....	71,556
1887-88	95,569	.....	18,457	.....	39,620
1888-89	94,481	89,999	83,764	8,834	132,817
1889-90	30,571	79,145	15,643	24,534	119,322
1890-91	30,956	67,497	19,730	26,056	133,283
1891-92	29,295	74,997	26,995	46,447	148,139
1892-93	6,464	74,998	46,937	13,000	165,970
1893-94	7,199	81,789	33,548	41,183	166,470
1894-95	5,999	78,000	22,012	109,577	209,589
1895-96	5,928	77,500	31,419	88,745	197,664
Con. Exp.	\$396,004	\$643,923	\$386,956	\$420,395	\$1,453,274
1896-97	\$ 6,886	\$ 80,000	\$ 53,519	\$ 110,133	\$ 243,652
1897-98	5,999	31,500	63,589	136,200	281,289
1898-99	10,302	79,000	72,934	128,043	279,977
1899-00	14,110	94,364	60,521	125,354	280,239
1900-01	10,027	88,200	65,718	147,000	300,916
1901-02	14,402	108,948	83,235	194,687	386,868
1902-03	9,966	100,183	109,064	217,018	426,755
1903-04	10,000	110,500	99,994	271,604	482,098
1904-05	9,996	111,000	190,253	274,156	575,409
1905-06	10,000	121,452	421,993	171,373	714,818
1906-07	12,862	110,806	276,667	215,000	602,472
1907-08	25,356	180,562	328,882	357,870	867,114
Lib. Exp.	\$139,923	\$1,266,512	\$1,826,857	\$2,348,238	\$5,441,607

To enable the reader to understand what particular items these total amounts are made up from, we will give as follows the items of the last year under the Conservatives and the last year under the Liberals.

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**EXPENDITURE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1896, TAKEN FROM THE
AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT:**

1896-96—

Experimental Farms, Maintenance	\$77,500
Dairying Interests: Maintenance	41,465
Cold Storage (Ice)	16,741
Advances for making butter and cheese.....	17,563
Health of Animals (Cattle Quarantine).....	31,419
Haras National (to Hon. Mr. Beaubien)	6,000
Aid to Agricultural Societies	6,976
Total	
Repairs to Experimental Farms buildings, etc....	\$197,664
	5,928
Grand Total	\$203,592

**EXPENDITURE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1907-08, TAKEN FROM THE
BOOKS OF THE ACCOUNTANT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE, (which will be published in the next Auditor-Gen-
eral's Report).**

Experimental Farms, Maintenance	\$168,063
Fumigation Stations (San José Scale)	4,999
Printing and Distribution of Bulletins, Reports.....	8,000
Dairy Division	25,594
Cow Census	14,491
Fruit Division	30,417
Tobacco Division	4,874
Extension of Markets	15,548
English Dairy, Salaries and Expenses of Canadian Inspectors in England	7,478
Cold Storage Inspection	1,540
Refrigeration on Cars	12,575
Cold Storage Bonuses (for Creameries)	2,925
Live Stock Division	45,743
Seed Branch	63,949
Cold Storage Warehouses (Bonuses and Inspection)	18,876
Meat and Canned Foods (Inspection)	63,660
Dominion Exhibition (Grant to Sherbrooke)	50,000
Cattle Quarantine	204,023
Compensation for Cattle and Hogs Slaughtered	124,859
Total	
Purchase of land for new Experimental Farms, Buildings, (Capital Account)	\$867,114
	25,356
Grand Total	\$892,470

We think that the comparison above made of the two expenditures is the best answer to the Conservative pretence that the Liberal Minister is not spending enough for agriculture. It will be shown elsewhere in this pamphlet that he has not hesitated to incur large expenditure when necessary in the interests of agriculture. But, on the other hand, what excuse is there for the small expenditure of the Conservatives in the old days? Was it that by their general policy the development of agriculture was discouraged and the agricultural prosperity of the country strangled? These figures tell that they

spent but a trifling amount of money for its improvement. . . Was it that their Ministers of Agriculture did not know enough about agriculture to¹ be able to work out the experiments and the developments, and consequently did not ask Parliament to vote the necessary moneys? Or was it that the sums they required were refused them by their colleagues who preferred to spend it otherwise? Surely this lack of attention to the interests which are of supreme importance in Canada must have been due either to ignorance or culpable indifference.

The Laurier Government, appreciating the importance of this industry in Canada, set to work to study out the lines of best development, and when they found and worked out what conduced to the advantage of Agriculture they had the courage necessary and did not hesitate to ask Parliament for even very large sums of money. The wisdom of their proposals has been completely shown by the fact that in no case has the Conservative Opposition dared to challenge the line of policy, or dared to challenge a vote upon the items of expenditure submitted to Parliament by the Minister. . . Their only plan has been to carp and cavil at the Minister on the pretence that the work he is doing was for the purpose of providing places for party friends, and not for the benefit of agriculture. The success of the work and its results in the way of agricultural development clearly show that this accusation was misplaced and not founded. To-day the staff of the agricultural department is composed of experts who are acknowledged by those engaged in the business to be the best on the continent, and even any politician who cares to investigate must acknowledge that the choice of officers of the department has redounded to the credit of the Government. One of the best evidences of the reputation of these experts is the constant demand for their presence and their advice at all the great agricultural gatherings.

It was not, therefore, a surprise to the farmer who knows and appreciates the work done by the Department to read in the editorial columns of the "Toronto News," certainly no friend of the Government, the following statement:—

"No sane person pretends," it says, "that nothing of national value has been accomplished by the Laurier Administration. Only a mad partisanship would deny the advantage of certain of its achievements. The British preference, the Railway Commission, the Lemieux Act, the extension of the Inter-colonial Railway to Montreal, the improvement of the St. Lawrence waterway, the activities of the Department of Immigration, all stand to its credit. The Department of Agriculture has been well administered. But there were great achievements by Conservative Governments with far less money at command, and from any standpoint the Conservative party is not discredited by comparison with the Liberal administration. When we reflect that with \$300,000,000 of excess revenue for the twelve years as compared with the last twelve years of Conservative rule, only \$60,000,000 was devoted to great constructive enterprises, and that all the balance was spent in running the machine it is hard to understand what was done with the money."

The "Toronto News," acknowledges here much important work done by the present Government but winds up with the complaint that the Government is spending more money than formerly was the case. How can it expect that these various improvements in nearly all the departments could have been accomplished without increase of expenditure? To take the instance of the Department of Agriculture, saying that it "has been well administered" shows that the "News" approves of the policy and of the work of the Department. The figures in the earlier part of this pamphlet show that this has been brought about by heavily increased expenditure, which, in the words of the "News" "was spent in running the machine." The "News" adds "and it is hard to understand what was done with the money." Well, it will now have

a clearer idea of what has been done with it. This program certainly could not have been brought about without that expenditure, because the results have been due to increased service, increased number of employees, many of them highly priced experts, increased organization of inspection, bonuses and aid to different agricultural organizations in the country, &c., &c. It might be fairly said that when the "News" gives utterance to the above views it justifies completely the one item on which it attacks the Government, viz.: "The increased expenditure."

The Conservatives had, heretofore, been trying to belittle the efforts of the Department of Agriculture and sneer at the Minister. They seem to have come to the realization of the failure amongst the farmers of that line of attack. At last it has been borne in on them that the farming community of Canada recognizes the work which has been done by the Dominion Department of Agriculture on its behalf, and that the attacks upon the Department bring them no votes. They, therefore, have inaugurated another line of campaign and are grumbling because more money is not spent, and more work is not done.

In the course of the tenure of office of the present Minister of Agriculture, whenever it was found in the interest of agriculture to undertake a certain work, he was not afraid to ask Parliament to grant the money necessary to carry out that work. He always insisted before taking hold of any proposal that there was an assurance that it would produce benefits to agriculture commensurate with the expenditure. He never favoured wild or unconsidered schemes the results of which were more than doubtful. The Minister has frequently on the floor of Parliament so expressed his attitude towards agricultural expenditure and challenged the Opposition to say what they wanted done that he was not doing, and what they wanted spent that he was not spending.

In that connection what do the Conservatives propose ought to be done that has not been done? Sir Charles Tupper and the lesser lights of this party first advocated the establishment of Government warehouses in British centres for the sale of Canadian products. Mr. Andrew Broder, Conservative member for Dundas and a practical agriculturist, proved in the House of Commons that that proposal was absurd. As Sir Charles Tupper has disappeared from the scene—perhaps in consequence of his proposals at the time he made them—and Mr. Broder remains the chief exponent of the Conservative policy on agricultural subjects, it is evident that the Liberal Government was right and that the Conservative leader was wrong.

To-day what does Mr. Broder, or what do the Conservative leaders say ought to be done? Mr. Broder seems to complain that enough money has not been spent. We think it is shown by the preceding tables that much has been spent. Mr. Broder has not yet suggested anything the Government ought to do and has not undertaken, or condemned anything that the Government have done.

One of the Conservative members, however, did make a positive proposal, namely, Mr. J. E. Armstrong, member for East Lambton. He thinks that the Government ought to do away with the surtax on German imports into Canada, and try to cultivate the German market for agricultural products. As far as this is concerned, the Conservative party did not seem to sympathize with Mr. Armstrong, for no formal motion came from the leaders of that party against the German surtax. We venture to think that the farmers of Canada, along with all true patriotic Canadians, are not prepared to receive with meekness the slap in the face that the German Government gave us some years ago, and to recede from the bold assertion of Canadian rights shown in the adoption by the Liberal Government of retaliatory measures to meet the imposition by Germany of the surtax on Canadian goods. Canadian farmers, all through Canada, it may be depended upon, will not

submit to insult and injury in a cowardly manner, but will sympathize with the Government which stood up for the rights and reputation of Canada, and the policy which has forced the German Government to make appeal against Canada to the Imperial authorities to try to open negotiations with us. They now are proposing to open negotiations with us for the removal of the surtax.

Mr. Armstrong's proposal is the only alternative to the programme of the Liberal Government. It is contrary to the national dignity and position of Canada and the Conservative leaders themselves do not dare to take that position.

Mr. E. D. Smith's Criticisms of the Cold Storage System Answered

We have seen elsewhere that Mr. Broder proved the absurdity of Sir Charles Tupper's proposals, and, on the other hand condemned the Minister of Agriculture for not spending enough. It would perhaps not be fair to take no notice, in this pamphlet, of another critic of agricultural expenditure, viz.: Mr. E. D. Smith, the Conservative member for Wentworth, who has recently resigned his seat. Mr. Smith, in his speech, in the House, in March last (1908), sneers at the alleged fact that the Government is now spending, and has been in recent years, \$100,000 a year chiefly on ocean cold storage. As a matter of fact, it appears from the departmental records that the Government has been spending nothing on the ocean service for cold storage bonuses since 1903. When that expenditure had entirely ceased, in 1903, a return to the House in 1904 showed that there had been spent altogether by the Liberal Administration, for the equipment of steamships with mechanical cold storage, and for ventilated storage, the sum of \$231,875. The contracts with the steamship people for cold storage proper had all expired by 1901, and in the same year contracts were made for the installation of cooled air, and arrangements made for the supplying, free of charge, of ventilation by means of fans in the holds of the vessels. This ventilation, by fans was then provided for, although Mr. Smith now advocates its general adoption and introduction, as if it were something new, and would of itself fill the whole bill as far as transportation of perishable products is concerned.

The report of the Minister of Agriculture for 1902 shows that this provision was being made, in addition to the rest of the cold storage and cooled air services. At the present time, as a result of these original arrangements, the ships that are not provided with cold storage and cooled air have at least provided, at their own expense, this ventilation by means of fans.

For the past six years, while the whole system thus initiated at Government expense, has been, through the Government system of inspection and reporting tested, developed and perfected, the member for Wentworth must have been either asleep, or he criticized the Minister in bad faith.

Let us examine the expenditure for cold storage from year to year since its inception to the time it was withdrawn from the ocean service:

1896	\$16,741.00	(Ice service.)
1896-1897	29,518.09	(Mechanical service.)
1897-1898	27,087.83	
1898-1899	45,695.61	
1899-1900	24,538.77	
1900-1901	27,002.76	
1901-1902	30,028.92	
1902-1903	39,708.31	
1903-1904	30,940.85	

This expenditure was chiefly on contracts with the ocean steamships. At the same time due provision had been made to complete the chain, by bonussing individual creameries, paying for the icing of cars running to export points and a thorough inspection on both sides of the Atlantic, to see that the system was working efficiently.

Now, during the time this expenditure was going on, let us see how the export of perishable products progressed. We will start with 1895, the year before the Conservative Government started in with the ice cold storage by their expenditure of \$16,000, and we will continue to the date the expenditure ended on the new system in 1903:

Year.	Eggs.	Butter.	Cheese	Bacon, Ham and Pork.
1895	\$ 807,990	\$ 697,476	\$14,253,002	\$ 3,839,145
1896	807,086	1,052,089	13,956,571	4,446,884
1897	978,479	2,089,173	14,676,239	5,871,988
1898	1,255,304	2,046,686	17,572,763	8,092,930
1899	1,267,063	3,700,875	16,776,765	10,473,211
1900	1,457,902	5,122,156	19,856,324	12,803,034
1901	1,691,640	3,295,663	20,696,951	11,829,820
1902	1,733,242	5,660,541	19,686,291	12,457,863
1903	1,436,130	6,954,618	24,712,943	16,029,269

Let us see now what the United States, our competitors, were doing during the same period under the same system which the Conservative Government had been carrying on. (Ice Cold Storage, or none at all). We give the following figures of the United States exports in butter and cheese:

Year.	Cheese.	Butter.
1895	\$5,497,539	\$ 915,533
1896	3,091,914	2,937,203
1897	4,636,063	4,493,364
1898	4,559,324	3,364,765
1899	3,316,049	3,263,951
1900	4,943,609	3,143,509
1901	3,950,999	4,014,905
1902	2,745,597	2,886,609
1903	2,250,229	1,604,327

Therefore, we see that during the years the Liberal Government in Canada were paying bonuses to the steamships to insure the installation of effective mechanical cold storage, the exports of perishable products increased at a decidedly rapid pace, while in the United States, where such progressive methods were lacking they were losing ground.

Another point. The chief three perishable exports for which cold storage was utilized, Butter, Cheese, Bacon and Ham—not to say anything of fruit—amounted as follows for two ten-year periods:—

1897-1906	\$369,404,000
1887-1896	146,558,000

Working out the percentage relation of the butter, cheese and bacon export to all the other agricultural exports, we find that, under Liberal rule, these perishable products formed 63 per cent., while during the previous ten years they formed only 48 per cent. of the total agricultural exports.

These figures demonstrate that the Liberal Government, by their system of mechanical cold storage, specially favored the exportation of perishable food products and that as a result the total of their export was abnormally large as compared with the exports of other agricultural products. That is, the spe-

cial aid given through the cold storage facilities stimulated the higher branches of agricultural production, viz.: butter and cheese, also bacon and hams which can be most economically produced in conjunction with dairy products. These branches of agriculture employ the greatest intelligence and the greatest amount of labour: they work the raw material of the farm into products of the highest value in proportion to bulk.

This prominence in the export of the perishables is all the more remarkable for the reason that the agricultural exports other than those of perishable nature have grown abnormally during the last ten years, because of the increased production and export of wheat.

Contrary to Mr. Smith's pretensions, therefore, the policy and practice of the Liberal Minister have—at least in the respect of providing efficient cold storage—exerted a direct influence in increasing the exports, not to speak of the influence resulting from the effective advertizing of Canadian products by the International Exhibitions, and the stimulus to purchase Canadian products resulting from the Preference.

But Mr. Smith says the cold storage system is inefficient—a proof of this being in the falling off of export of butter. True, the enormous home consumption, and the extremely high prices that have been prevailing in Canada during the past two years, have caused a falling off in the export of butter. There was a great lack of fodder for the winter of 1906-07. The spring of 1907 was abnormally late and checked the production of milk. Lack of moisture in the early autumn of the present season is having a similar effect. The export is checked, but the steadily increasing home consumption absorbs at top prices all that is offering.

But Mr. Smith says the Minister of Agriculture must take the bitter with the sweet, and if he should have credit for increased shipments from the inception of his cold storage system, he should now be held responsible for the decrease. Well, it happens that Mr. Smith himself has conclusively shown that it was through no fault of the Minister, or his cold storage system. In his speech in the House last March, Mr. Smith had to admit it. He says at page 5129 of Hansard, "I am bound to say that now most of the steamers carrying butter in cold storage are carrying it at a temperature below freezing point." These are very pregnant words coming, as they do, immediately after the analysis which Mr. Smith had made of 200 thermograph records, proving to him most conclusively the effectiveness of the cold storage system. If Mr. Smith would make known the great facilities that are provided by the Government for the transportation of perishable products he would be serving the interests of the country, and thereby show true patriotism.

It would also be well for him in his criticism to study the reports of the Department. He would glean from some of the opinions of the large English importing firms something to form an accurate opinion. In the last report of the Dairy Commissioner, page 103, he might note the statement of W. & L. Gilmour, of Glasgow, to the following effect:

"We quite admit that there is still room for further improvement in the make of Canadian butter, but that is a matter we are willing to leave in the hands of your different dairies, as the suggested improvements and instructions given by your dairy experts, if acted upon, are bound to have a good effect. In our opinion they are one and all in the right direction, and without intention to flatter in any sense, we say honestly that no government has done, and is still doing, more towards perfecting the development of the very highest and admittedly best system in the production and distribution of dairy produce than has the Government of Canada."

With regard to the allegation that the Minister has been remiss in the administration of the Fruit Marks' Act, Mr. Smith is also astray. In the first place, it was never intended, as Mr. Smith would have it inferred, that the fruit inspection should extend to all the fruit shipped from every point in the country; but rather that the Act should be administered somewhat on the lines of the adulterated Foods Act. It was especially designed to regulate and protect our export trade, and to be applied specially at the ocean ports of shipment. This was clearly explained in a debate on the 1st April, 1901, pages 24-33 to 24-37 of Hansard. It appears that while, on behalf of the Opposition, Messrs. Clancy and Reid were insisting on thus confining the inspection, Mr. Fisher was explicit in clearly defining this limitation in the application of the Act. As a matter of fact, the Act has been applied every succeeding year more strictly. The prosecutions which at first were intended more as a deterrent and a warning have been greatly increased. The convictions during the seasons of 1905-06 were 48; in 1906-07 there were 40; in the fiscal year 1907-08 there were 178.

As to the extent of the inspection, the following table of statistics so far published will give some idea:

STATISTICS OF INSPECTIONS.

The following table gives the general statistics of inspections for the whole staff for the five years, 1901-6 inclusive:—

	1901-2.	1902-3.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.
No. of lots inspected.....	1,468	1,470	1,964	1,641	2,813
No. of pkgs in lots inspected ...	65,880	154,220	234,343	212,348	330,681
No. of pkgs. inspected.....	3,155	8,341	10,702	8,798	11,423

Mr. Smith, moreover, sneers at the idea that any administrative action of the Minister of Agriculture should have "in any way contributed to the opening up of even a single market." Mr. Smith would no doubt be surprised to know, from the last report of the Dairy Commisisoner (page 107), that in 1906 apples were shipped to 21 different countries; the quantities shipped being notably large to Newfoundland, South Africa, Holland and Bermuda. This result was possible only through subsidies to new lines of steamships and the improved accommodation in Canadian ships provided by the action of the Government.

Having taken due note of the policy and views of the Conservatives, we will proceed to discuss in fuller detail what was accomplished during the Liberal Regime in each separate Branch of the Department of Agriculture. In doing so we will, when practicable, make a comparison of expenditure at different periods, so that, with the explanations accompanying the figures, the reader may grasp more clearly the progress that has been made.

The Departmental Work and Expenditure Reviewed

BRANCH OF THE VETERINARY DIRECTOR-GENERAL.

In connection with the "Cattle Embargo" we deal with the position of Canada previous to 1896 in so far as concerns the guarding against and controlling of outbreaks of disease. One of Mr. Fisher's first acts, upon assuming office, was to secure the abolition of the quarantine between Canada and the United States, placing at the disposal of our farmers an excellent market for their stockers. He increased the salary of Dr. McEachran, then the Chief Veterinary Inspector, and tried through him to place the Health of Animals service on a better footing by the establishment of an effective organization covering the whole country. Doctor McEachran, however, was not required by his original appointment to the office of Chief Veterinary Inspector to give his whole time to the public service, and for the purpose of thoroughly accomplishing the work required it was necessary that the attention of the Head of the Veterinary Branch should not be diverted from the important work under his charge. As Dr. McEachran had large private interests which he could not afford to give up he decided to resign and, in 1902, he was succeeded by Dr. Rutherford, the present Veterinary Director General, who immediately proceeded to put into practical shape the Minister's views on the control of animal diseases. The work since performed has been far-reaching and comprehensive and the results eminently satisfactory from a business point of view. The Health of Animals Branch which, under the old regime had no existence as a distinct division of departmental work, has been organized and brought into action. The resulting advantages are many and easily understood. A definite and uniform policy emanating from Federal authority is of the greatest benefit to the live stock interests and especially to the live stock trade of the country, there being now one seat of authority and one set of regulations covering each phase of the work.

The development of this special service has naturally involved increased expenditure although this has been done much more largely by the adoption of a liberal policy of compensation to owners of diseased animals slaughtered in the course of stamping out operations, than to any other feature of the new departure. While the staff has been added to and strengthened and the salaries, although still somewhat lower than in other countries similarly situated, are in some cases higher than they were, both of these conditions are inseparable from a policy involving the performance of so much professional work of a responsible character and requiring, as is now the rule, that the whole time of officers shall be devoted to their official duties.

So far as the increased cost of the service itself is concerned, there is everywhere throughout the country among intelligent stockmen, but one opinion, viz.:—that it is more than justified by its results. The fact that the services of well instructed and specially trained inspectors are now almost always available when asked for, is already eliciting frequent expressions of approval from those interested, both in Canada and elsewhere, and this favourable sentiment will keep pace with the improvement constantly being made in the personnel and training of the staff.

Taking the other and larger item of expenditure, that involved in the payment of compensation to farmers and others whose animals have to be

killed in the process of stamping out disease, the question of justification is fully settled by the figures given below:—

HOG CHOLERA.

	Outbreaks.	Compensation.
1902-03	360	\$36,029.75
1903-04	151	21,352.35
1904-05	52	7,042.73
1905-06 (5 months)	30	839.84
1906-07	23	2,193.66
1907-08	36	2,811.43

The slight apparent increase in the last year is due to two fresh infections, one in British Columbia and the other in Pelee Island, both being undoubtedly due to the illicit introduction of American hogs.

In this connection it should not be forgotten that the great majority of the hogs slaughtered during the first two years named, were paid for at the rate of only one-third of the value while since 1904 two-thirds has been allowed. It should also be remembered that while the sums mentioned are considerable, they constitute but a fraction of the actual loss to the farming community as the real value of lean hogs or breeding swine, especially at some seasons, cannot be properly computed by any valuator. On a one-third valuation therefore the sum of \$108,000 would be a conservative estimate of the loss on hogs actually slaughtered in 1902-03, to say nothing of the total loss on those which died of the disease and for which, of course, no compensation could be paid. We have the added satisfaction that the disease has been checked and that the new centres of infection which were constantly being created are no longer in evidence.

Much larger expenditures have been made on similar lines in dealing with Glanders, a disease which under former methods was not dealt with by the Department except in the North West Territories and there only in an ineffective way owing to the fact that no compensation was paid for horses slaughtered. The losses annually caused by this disease were enormous, and in 1904 it was decided to adopt a comprehensive policy and to grant compensation to owners as in dealing with hog cholera.

The figures for Glanders are as follows:—

	Horses killed.	Compensation.
1904-5	2,113	\$147,851.45
1905-06 (5 months)	1,387	108,045.76
1906-07	1,891	142,057.07
1907-08	1,278	99,788.68

It will be noted that the amount annually expended is rapidly becoming less, although owing to the great prevalence of the disease in some districts, considerable sums are still being paid to the unfortunate owners of diseased horses.

The same is true of Dourine or *Maladie du Coit*, a disease sometimes known as equine syphilis, which made its appearance in Alberta in 1904, having been introduced by horses from the Western States.

	Horses killed.	Compensation.
1904-5	292	\$ 16,029.94
1905-06 (5 months)	120	6,806.48
1906-07	167	10,336.44
1907-08	43	3,449.92

In connection with this disease also an experiment station has been established at Lethbridge, where every effort is being made to discover some practical method of treating successfully incipient cases and if possible to devise a means of protecting sound animals from infection.

The expenditure of money in the payment of compensation for animals slaughtered as being affected with Pictou Cattle Disease, a peculiar malady confined to a few counties in North Eastern Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, which had formed an annual charge on the Department since 1882 has been completely cut off. This was done by establishing a small experiment station within the affected area, the work performed at which has shown conclusively that the disease is not of a contagious nature but is due to the eating of an imported weed, the Rag-wort, locally known as "Stinking Willie." An annual saving of several thousand dollars has thus been effected, while the residents of the district have been fully enlightened as to the cause of the trouble and are taking steps to eradicate the weed.

Many other investigations are in progress in different parts of the country for the purpose of securing like definite information as to diseases local and general, as in order to deal intelligently with any condition it is necessary, first of all, to understand its true nature.

Work of this kind costs money, but when properly conducted leads to large and permanent economies both for the individual and for the country as a whole. Of this the Biological laboratory at Ottawa is an excellent illustration. Beginning in 1902 it has gone on until through the various preparations now manufactured and supplied to the public, either free, or at a mere fraction of what they cost in the ordinary market, it is now practically paying its own way, while the benefits conferred by its work in this and other lines, on the service and the stock-owners of Canada can scarcely be estimated.

LIVE STOCK BRANCH.

There was spent in this branch for 1905-06, \$36,236.

There was no corresponding expenditure in 1895-96.

The value of live stock and their products for the year 1900, as estimated by the Census of 1901, was \$421,526,932.

That these large and important interests were worthy of the special attention of the Federal Government no one would now for a moment deny. The only item under the head of Live Stock noticeable in the expenditure of 1895-96 is that of \$6,000, representing the payment to the Hon. Mr. Beanbien,—Conservative ex-Minister of Agriculture for the Province of Quebec,—of \$1,000 a year each for the use of six stallions. There was, no doubt, then (as there is now of a more effective character) the Veterinary Staff for the enforcement of the Animals Contagious Diseases Act and some desultory feeding of grade cattle at the Experimental Farms. There was, however, no systematic effort such as is now evident at the Experimental Farm to demonstrate with the best strains of the leading breeds, the best methods of feeding and breeding and to distribute the progeny of these pure bred animals through sales to Farmers' Associations all over Canada. There was no special officer appointed to look after these interests previous to the advent of the present Government; no effort such as is being made by the Live Stock Division (under review) to place good thorough-bred stock through auction sales within the reach of the farmers who need them; to extend and develop international and interprovincial trade in live stock; to extend to the whole of Canada the benefits of Provincial Live Stock Associations, and fat stock and other Provincial Educational shows; no effort to widely spread among farmers up-to-date knowledge in regard to live stock through publication of reports and bulletins; no effort to bring about co-operation of all the live stock associa-

tions and interests of Canada for the purpose of a national organization and uniform action such as was realized through the formation of a National Live Stock Breeders' Association; the establishment of national pedigree records, and of the system of advanced registry.

All this has been accomplished since 1899 by the appointment then of a Live Stock Commissioner, aided by an expert staff of officials at Ottawa and in the provinces, all receiving the active support and co-operation of the Minister.

In 1900 the Minister passed a law providing for the incorporation of "Live Stock Record Associations" and brought about the co-operation of the Live Stock Division with the Live Stock Breeders' Associations. There resulted the nationalization of the records of pure bred animals and a uniform system of registration in Ottawa with certificates bearing the seal of the Dominion Minister of Agriculture.

Besides the National Live Stock Association the Live Stock Division have organized Local Associations in all the Provinces where none had been established. The live stock men of the different sections have been brought into close touch through the auction sales referred to. By means of the expansion and elaboration of the Guelph Fat Stock Show, the establishment of the Maritime Provinces Fat Stock Show at Amherst, N.S., and of Eastern Ontario and Western Quebec Live Stock Show at Ottawa, the establishment of a Show at Calgary and several minor gatherings, there has been gradually developed a complete system of interprovincial live stock trade. There has been inaugurated and perfected a system of educational and illustrative work at the different Fat Stock Shows, where experts of this Division have acted as judges and delivered addresses on the reasons for their decisions, work which they also performed at other exhibitions. There has been an immense increase in the Farmers' Institute work, the Dominion Department supplying trained expert lecturers in all the Provinces for comprehensive lecturing tours.

Besides the operations of this Division through its staff at headquarters in Ottawa, there are under its control expert live stock men located, one in the Maritime Provinces, one in Quebec, and one in British Columbia, whose services are permanently utilized in the way we have described.

The analysis of the items of expenditure incurred by this Division as shown by the Auditor's Report of 1905-06, includes the salaries and expenses of the Central Office at Ottawa.....\$10,880
Salaries and travelling expenses of the three men located in the

Provinces	
Stationery supplies and Printing Bulletins, &c.	4,592
Grants to Associations	2,910
	7,779
Totalling	\$26,161

The rest of the expenditure, \$10,000, has been expended in smaller amounts for various purposes connected with the work, but especially for the fees and travelling expenses of Institute lecturers and for the cost of auction sales of pure bred stock.

The expenditure and work in this Division and in the Veterinary Branch, with which it is closely connected, have been a powerful stimulus to interprovincial trade in live stock which was very necessary. Before this work began, all Eastern Breeders were sending their stockers to the United States to be finished and a large proportion of the profit from them went to a foreign country. The average price of 1,645 head which were sent to the United States in 1896 was only \$5.39; while 4,765 head, which we sent them in 1906, netted an average price of \$40 per head. Our total export trade in live stock

which increased from \$6,816,361 in 1896 to \$7,579,089 in 1900, the year the Live Stock Commissioner was appointed, had by 1906 reached the sum of \$11,075,413.

NATIONAL RECORDS FOR LIVE STOCK.

In 1900 the Minister of Agriculture passed legislation for the incorporation of Live Stock Record Associations. This Act provides for the incorporation of not more than one association for each distinct breed and practically all the Record Associations in Canada have been granted Dominion incorporation thereunder. Prior and subsequently to the passing of the Act, a number of lesser record associations for the various breeds were formed in the outlying provinces. This multiplication of records was fast becoming a source of confusion, preventing harmony among the breeders from the different sections of the Dominion, and creating a hinderance to interprovincial trade in pure-bred live stock.

At the first annual meeting of the Canadian National Live Stock Association, convened by the Minister at Ottawa, in March, 1904, the unanimous wishes of the pure-bred stock breeders of the Dominion were voiced in a series of resolutions, which, in April, 1905, were embodied in an agreement between them and the Minister of Agriculture. This agreement provides that the several record associations shall continue to manage their own affairs and records, and handle their own funds under the provisions of the Act; that the office of the Registrar shall be at Ottawa, and all certificates shall be issued therefrom; that under the direction of the Minister of Agriculture, an officer set apart for the purpose shall inspect and approve all certificates, and shall thereupon affix the seal supplied by the Department; that the Department of Agriculture shall supply an office heated and lighted for the use of the Registrars and other persons similarly employed and all official stationery and blank forms, together with the regular postal messenger service.

The Act "Respecting Incorporation of Live Stock Record Associations" was amended according to the new agreement providing that "the Minister of Agriculture may, through an officer of his department, approve, under the band of that officer and the seal of his department a certificate of registration issued by the National Associations." Nearly all the private and provincial records have been merged with the National Records at Ottawa, all animals eligible for registration in the corresponding nationalized book being transferred thereto free of charge to their owners. Practically, all the Record Associations of Canada now conduct their business and issue certificates of registration from Ottawa.

Under this national system of registration a uniform style of certificate for all breeds has been adopted. Each certificate after being prepared by the registrar, working under instructions from his respective record associations, is compared with the application for registration sent in, and scrutinized for accuracy by an officer of the Live Stock Branch, who, upon finding the certificate correct, affixes the seal of the Dominion Department of Agriculture before it leaves the office of registration. This provision assures the Canadian farmer, the foreign buyer and the foreign government, that a pedigree issued by the Canadian National Records is authentic.

Moreover, the action of the Minister in bringing about the organization of the National Live Stock Associations and the establishment of the National Records in Ottawa has so unified the live stock breeders' operations that they can exert their combined influence and promptly co-operate for purposes other than registration of pedigree records.

RECORDS OF PERFORMANCE.

With a view to encouraging breeders of pure-bred dairy stock to give greater heed to the increasing and improving of the milk production of their herds, the Live Stock Division undertook early in 1906, to officially supervise the yearly testing of pure-bred herds to determine the individual production of milk and butter-fat. The breed associations co-operating in this work agree to the regulations imposed by the Live Stock Commissioner, and to publish as an appendix to their respective herd books the records of cows that reach the standard for registration in the record of performance. The standard for registration varies with the different breeds according to the wishes of the associations respectively. All other rules and regulations were drawn up by the Live Stock Commissioner, and are uniform for all breeds. This Advanced Registration is a development of the nationalizing of the Live Stock Records, and has become quite popular among practical dairymen who appreciate the importance of discriminating in favor of the cow which, in addition to a proper pedigree, has an established record of a big yield of milk and butter-fat.

THE POULTRY INDUSTRY.

The Conservative pamphlet, in referring to the Department of Agriculture, is driven to the old attempt at facetiousness in regard to what it calls "chicken fattening." As a matter of fact, this matter was disposed of in the elections of 1900 and 1904. The Conservatives, however, still have great fun pretending that the Auditor-General's reports show an occasional loss at some of the experimental stations, when they were in existence. If the man in charge of a station, for instance, bought its supplies and equipment just before the close of one fiscal year and sold only a portion, or none at all, of his stock during that year, of course the Auditor-General's report shows an adverse balance; and this is what the Conservative pamphlet seizes upon with the glee of a young school girl who has made a smart discovery. Of course, nobody but these facetious Cons. pretends that these experimental stations should show a net profit on the sum total of the operations when completed, any more than that is expected of the experimental farms.

There was no such effusion of mirth on the occasion of the enormous expenditure required for the starting of the experimental farms which have never yielded a revenue at all nearly proportionate to the outlay on them, and people with their wits never expected they would be net revenue-yielding farms. The wonder was that it was possible to so conduct the poultry experimental stations all over the Dominion for five years in such a way that when the stations were closed a couple of years ago the net debit balance for all the operations should be only \$17,000! How the Conservatives would have crowed had they, in their day, been able to boast of such a result! The Liberals were content that this aid had proved of decided advantage to an important industry. What a mere begatelle was this adverse balance when it is borne in mind that both breeding and fattening stations were carried on in the different provinces; that the work of the stations was directed with a view of finding out the cheapest and most suitable houses to build, the most practical incubators and brooders to use, the best utility breeds and types of fowl, the best way to manage young and growing chickens, and the best methods of feeding, killing and marketing the same; that a type of fowl was being developed at the breeding stations which made a profitable table bird and at the same time produced a good laying strain of pullets; and that these pullets were being sold to the farmers at reasonable prices for breeding purposes, as were also the eggs for hatching. Climatic and other conditions in Canada multiplied the difficulties with which the poultry raiser had to contend. These and many other questions the Poultry Division and experimental

stations were endeavoring to solve. A profit on such operations was not to be expected because the work was largely educational. The results must be looked for in the increased interest taken in these matters, by the desire on part of the farmers to improve their stock, and by the improvement of poultry in general. As a result of this improvement of poultry, prices were advancing. Throughout the older provinces, where the stations were first established, the farmers have adopted many of the methods advocated at the stations. They are buying incubators, making brooders, crate-feeding their cockarels and, in place of selling them at six months for 25 and 35 cents a pair, as was the case several years ago, they are now realizing from 50 to 80 cents for them at four months old. Dealers prefer to handle crate-fatted birds at several cents a pound advance in price, because consumers are willing to pay the increased price for the superior article.

When the objects aimed at by the establishment of these stations had been attained, and the necessary object lessons had been given, and the results of the experiments widely circulated by means of lectures and in pamphlet form among the people interested, these stations were closed, and once more the lie was given to the Conservatives who, when the stations were established, pretended that this work was being done to provide permanent places for Liberal partisans. The work is accomplished and the permanent results remain. The recent agricultural census shows a largely increased production of poultry which has been taken up at high prices by the increased consumption. Thirty-three carloads of incubators were shipped into Winnipeg in 1906, and in the late fall of the same year up to Christmas there were sent from the East to Calgary no less than seventy-three carloads of poultry and eggs. The Cons. may think the industry is of very little consequence, but the farmer and especially their wives and daughters, who have learned to do this work from the illustrations at the experimental stations, appreciate it because they are not able to fill the ever-increasing local demand. Such fatted poultry now commands in large Canadian cities as high as 13 and 14 cents a pound, while formerly, under the Conservative let-alone policy, the farmers' wives and daughters had to be content with five, six or at most seven cents. The poultry raiser now knows how to make his profit by putting fat on to the bones of the young bird, and the consumer, while paying a higher price per pound, effects an economy because he gets a larger weight of succulent meat in proportion to the bones. Under the Conservative let-alone policy the farmers made a miserably small profit and the consumer had neither comfort nor profit in picking the bones.

THIRTY DAYS QUARANTINE ON UNITED STATES SWINE.

Sometime previous to November, 1905, the Canadian Government permitted packing houses to import live hogs without quarantine for slaughter in bond, provided they were subsequently exported. The same bonding privilege existed for the carrying and packing of imported carcasses of swine. Both these privileges were rescinded by Order in Council approved on February 3rd, 1906, when the Orders in Council of May 3rd, 1880, and January 27th, 1882, and all other Orders in Council for the slaughtering of imported swine in bond, and for the carrying and packing of imported carcasses of swine in bond, were rescinded. On the 29th of November preceding (1905) a quarantine of thirty days was imposed against all swine imported into Canada. These measures amounted practically to prohibition of the importation of live hogs and rendered the importation of swine carcasses very rare.

While due precaution had been taken by the measures just mentioned to protect our swine from disease and our internal trade against the importation of hogs from the United States, the Minister, last year, introduced the compulsory government inspection of meats at packing houses.

THE MEAT AND CANNED FOOD ACT.

The enactment of the Meat Inspection Law in 1907 is an example of the policy of the Liberal Minister, which is to promptly meet a situation and protect the interests of the farmers before they are seriously hurt rather than, like Thackeray's Micawber and the Conservatives, "wait to see what will turn up," and when the harm is done try to remedy the situation when it has gone so far that it is out of the question, as happened with the Conservative Government, in the case of the cattle embargo. It is by dint of constant watchfulness and care for the interests of agriculture that evils are prevented that would hurt farmers in the disposal of their products. *In the old days nothing was done until the evil arose and then belated attempts to apply a remedy were of no avail.* Some Conservative members have recently said that the Liberal Government did not spend enough for agriculture. Here is a case where the Government do not hesitate to spend \$100,000 a year when it is deemed necessary in the interests of the farmer's trade and when money is being put into their pockets by safeguarding that trade.

The passage of this Act and the undertaking of this expenditure was not a consequence of any occurrence in Canada. The prime reason for the Act was the exposures in connection with the Chicago Packing Houses and the effect that they might have had on the Canadian trade, inasmuch as the foreigner as a rule is inclined to look upon the product of either country as American, whether it comes from the United States or Canada.

Again, when the United States, in order to restore confidence in their goods, passed their Food Act and established the stringent system of inspection thereunder, it became imperative for this country to do the same, otherwise, in the minds of those who could distinguish between the products of the two countries, the former would certainly have had the preference.

Shortly after the Chicago exposures the Department was advised that several of the municipal and health bodies of Britain were taking steps which would lead to the exclusion of our meat products if they were not thoroughly inspected at home.

Dr. Collingridge, Medical Health Officer for the City of London, acting in co-operation with the British Government took the matter up with the High Commissioner. From his representations made to the High Commissioner, and by the letter communicated to the Department, it was evident that unless we established an effective system of inspection, particularly for the detection of tuberculosis, our meat products would not be allowed to enter the London Market, and as Dr. Collingridge was acting in co-operation with the British Government it may be assumed that the same may be said of all the British Markets. It was evident, especially from Dr. Collingridge's representations to the High Commissioner, that any system of inspection to be satisfactory to the British authorities must provide for the inspection of dressed carcasses of hogs in the manner prescribed by our regulations.

As our trade in meat products is being carried on now as freely in Britain as it was before the Chicago scare, it may reasonably be inferred in view of the foregoing facts that *this is due to the prompt action of the Minister*, and that had he not so acted our meat trade in Great Britain would have been seriously impaired if not destroyed. A cable from London at this writing states that stringent regulations are to be enforced.

Another reason for the Act, and the system of inspection which has been established, was that the Department had learned that unless we had at our disposal duly qualified and duly constituted and appointed official inspectors, who could give certificates of meat products, our trade with some of the foreign countries would be cut off.

To show the absolute necessity for the Act in this regard we have but to take the case of the United States. Under a Regulation made under their Food Act in July last, meat or meat food products of cattle, sheep, swine, and goats cannot enter that country unless accompanied by a certificate establishing that animals slaughtered in Canadian abattoirs are subjected to competent official veterinary ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection, etc.

The Dairy Branch

In 1895-96, Professor Robertson spent\$58,248.00
Of which there was under the head of Cold Storage (Ice) 16,741.00
Under the head of Dairy Interests, Maintenance, etc..... 41,465.00

At that time Professor Robertson was chiefly concerned with the educational work resulting from his own excellent addresses at public meetings, and that done at the Dairy Stations which he was at that time carrying on in the Maritime Provinces.

The Experimental Farms deal with the best means to produce all kinds of agricultural products and the distribution of the information by means of reports, bulletins, and addresses at public meetings, while the Dairy Commissioner's Branch has been concerned more with the trade in food products. Since the advent of the present Government the Dairying Branch, according to the well known system of specialization of the Liberal Minister, has been from time to time subdivided so that the constantly increasing volume of varied and complicated work assigned to it by the Minister might be more systematically and effectively dealt with. Whether farmers devote their energies more particularly to live stock, to dairying or to fruit-growing, they all have a practical interest in the marketing of their products in perfect condition and in securing pure, sound vital seeds for the sowing of their fields. The Liberal Minister at a large additional expense placed in charge of these separate Divisions of Agriculture, a man who had made of each specialty a life study and acquired such scientific and practical knowledge of it as to highly qualify him and secure recognition for him as an expert. Hence the creation of seven separate Divisions under the following heads: "Live Stock," "Dairying," "Cold Storage," "Fruit," "Seed," "Extension of Foreign Markets," and latterly the "Tobacco Division," each expert having under him a staff of trained employees.

At first, and until recently, the work of these Divisions were placed by Mr. Fisher under the general direction of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Dairying. After Dr. Robertson's departure to assume the direction of the Macdonald Agricultural College at Ste. Anne, the Divisions for "Dairying," "Fruit," "Cold Storage," and "Extension of Foreign Markets" were placed under the general supervision of the new Dairy Commissioner, Mr. J. A. Ruddick; Mr. Clark was appointed Seed Commissioner, while, three or four years ago, the Live Stock Division was placed under the control of the Veterinary Director-General.

In comparison with the \$58,207.00, which was spent for the Dairy services in 1895-96, in 1905-06 there was spent the sum of\$166,292.00

The votes for these various services were fully discussed in the House of Commons at different times and, with the exception of some petty carping

criticisms, they were concurred in by the Opposition. The nature of the expenditure in each case and its wisdom is generally understood and recognized. Hence very few words of explanation are necessary.

GENERAL DAIRYING\$30,712.00

This item comprises general office equipment, salaries, travelling expenses of the Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner and of official referees and other members of the staff who attend many public meetings; also for stationery, printing bulletins, etc.

COOL CURING OF CHEESE\$8,330.00

The experiments so ably conducted by Mr. J. A. Ruddick, the Commissioner, demonstrated to the cheese makers of Canada that cheese cured at a temperature under 60 degrees Fahrenheit improves the flavour and texture of the cheese and affects a saving of 1.23 per cent. on the shrinkage of weight. Shippers, experts and consignees have repeatedly recommended the process and have estimated the increased value per pound at from one-quarter to one half cent. The system is being very widely adopted throughout the country.

NORTH-WEST CREAMERIES AND MARITIME CREAM- ERIES\$35,141.00

There were 18 in operation; 9 in Northern Alberta and 9 in Saskatchewan. This work, now taken over by the new Provinces, has educated and aided the farmers already established in the country and has made the country attractive to intending settlers. The above amount includes also the running of 3 creameries in Nova Scotia.

COW TESTING\$1,557.00

When 20 farmers desire to form an Association to promote improvement in their herds through recording their performance, the Dairy Commissioner's expert co-operates with them in furnishing the necessary forms for recording the weights of the milk and, moreover, the Commissioner provides a competent man to superintend the testing, free of charge. This work has been recently very much extended.

EXTENSION OF FOREIGN MARKETS\$19,101.00

This Division deals with the placing of our food products on foreign markets, supervises the transportation of food products, and, through a complete staff of inspectors, controls the handling of cargo at Canadian ports. Either upon arrival of the cargo on river boats and on the cars, or when placed on board ship, it is the duty of the inspectors to report in detail upon the mode of shipment and place a thermograph record to record the temperature during the trip on either cars or ship. Another set of Inspectors visit the products on board ship upon arrival, report upon them, their temperature, their condition and the subsequent disposal of them. There are inspectors charged with watching and regulating the refrigerator car service, and others to report upon the temperature of butter, etc., at railway shipping points. Due publicity is given to these various reports, which form a substantial basis for complaint when necessary and lead to a remedy being promptly applied. The Chief of this Branch compiles annually from these reports and from other sources very important data which serve to guide the transportation companies, the shippers and consignees, as well as to inform producers as to the handling of their products.

EQUIPMENT ON RAILWAYS, REFRIGERATION ON CARS.\$11,593.00

This is intimately connected with the "Extension of Markets Division," which supervises the expenditure. It is for icing cars and paying the difference between the Government guarantee of two-thirds of the running of a minimum car, viz., \$5.00 per car for icing. Shippers are charged the current less than carload rates without extra charge for ice. When earnings exceed the guarantee there is no charge against the Department.

COLD STORAGE BONUSES\$5,425.00

Money for this purpose has been spent annually since 1897 on account of the \$100 paid by the Department during three consecutive seasons to aid in the construction of a creamery cold storage in accordance with plans prepared and submitted by the Department and on the condition that a certain temperature should be continually maintained, etc. Nearly all the creameries in Canada have taken advantage of this bonus.

SUBSIDIES FOR COLD STORAGE WAREHOUSES.

By an Act passed during the 1906 Session of Parliament, the Governor-in-Council is authorized to enter into contracts with any person for the construction, equipment and maintenance of public Cold Storage warehouses, equipped with mechanical refrigeration suitable for the preservation of all perishable food products. The Governor-in-Council may pay, out of moneys appropriated by Parliament for the purpose, a grant or subsidy not to exceed, on the whole, 80 per cent. of the amount expended or approved of in such construction and equipment.

In certain localities the investment would be fairly safe, but in many places where such warehouses would be of great benefit to the farmers and fruit growers, inducements are necessary to secure capital. No subsidy will be given for competition with other established warehouses. There will be no competition with the old ones, which, it must be remembered, occupy the choice locations. These new establishments will serve a considerable area where the facilities are greatly needed. There will be Governmental regulation of the rates and conditions. *The result of this fresh addition to the cold storage service will be to generalize through rural Canada a system of storing perishable products effectively and at reasonable prices, so they can be held and marketed in prime condition at the highest prices.*

This is a further and most effective addition to the cold storage system inaugurated in 1897 by the present Minister of Agriculture, and ever since steadily developed by him, in accordance with the new conditions and demands continually arising.

FRUIT DIVISION.

1905-06.—Expenditure	\$23,761.00
1895-96.—Expenditure	None.

The work of this Division is quite different from the experimental work at the Experimental Farms, the latter being designed to educate the farmer in the most economical methods of producing the best of the best varieties. This is a new feature introduced, organized and developed by the present Minister, chiefly to aid in the proper grading, packing and marking of fruit, transporting it and marketing it abroad in such a way as to enhance the reputation of Canadian fruit.

The Chief of the Division, Mr. A. E. McNeill, with a number of other qualified fruit men, attend fruit conventions and meetings, delivering addresses and issuing bulletins which are widely distributed; aid in the formation of co-operative fruit packing and fruit marketing associations, gather data and issue monthly fruit reports during the fruit season and otherwise aid the industry. But the bulk of their work during the fruit shipping season is to inspect and enforce "The Fruit Marks Act."

The Act was designed chiefly to protect farmers from fraud by dishonest fruit merchants and to regulate and protect our export trade. The prosecutions under it, which at first were intended more as a deterrent and a warning, have been gradually increased, as we have already shown. In 1905-06 when 879,496 barrels were shipped from the ports of Montreal, Halifax and St. John, 2,305 lots were examined and 8,437 packages opened for the purpose. These inspectors work in harmony with the Cargo Inspectors, whose business it is to see that proper cold storage or cooled air facilities are provided throughout the transit from producer to consumer.

Results show how wise it is to incur this expenditure. Quotations recently in Parliament from Woodall & Company's weekly publications, and from "The British Fruit Grower," show that *Canadian apples are quoted from 2 to 5 shillings higher than American.* So we have the United States Consul in Edinburgh reporting to his Government "That the Canadian apple imports are beginning a very strong opposition in the Scottish markets," and buyers of Canadian fruit and has in this way proved useful both to seller and purchaser." "The Fruitman's Guide," referring to the Bill introduced in the Legislature of New York State, says that "The Canadian law is a success because it is a national law." And we have the statement from "The Montreal Gazette's Annual Report" that "the Fruit Marks Act is certainly responsible for the improvement in the facing as well as the grading."

TOBACCO.

That the Tobacco industry has derived benefits from the systematic campaign of education and experiment—which the Federal Minister is, and has been for the past few years, conducting, under the supervision of a highly qualified expert—is evident from the steadily increasing number of manufacturers that use Canadian tobacco, either exclusively or in combination with the foreign leaf. As a result, not only are larger quantities of a better article cultivated, but the processes of curing have been so much improved that the manufacturers pay higher prices.

The action of the Government—in further raising the Customs duties on the imported leaf, and using the same colored label on domestic and foreign brands—has given an additional powerful stimulus to the industry.

SEED COMMISSIONER'S BRANCH.

This branch of the department has for its object increased yield and improved quality of farm crops in Canada through the use of better seed. The work of this branch does not include experimentation with farm crops, or the distribution to farmers of seeds of approved varieties. Rather is it the object *to stimulate interest among farmers in the growing and selecting of seeds of superior quality:* to adopt such means as may be expedient from time to time so as to secure the distribution, among farmers, of the best seed produced in any district; and to restrict the sale for seeding of seeds that are foul with noxious impurities, through the enforcement of the Seed Control Act, which came into force September 1, 1905.

As a basis upon which to start this work, upwards of 1,200 samples of seed of grasses, clovers, cereals, root crops, vegetables and flowers were secured from seed merchants in different parts of Canada and tested in the Seed Laboratory.

Articles containing summary information of the results from the analyses of these seeds were prepared and sent to the newspapers for general publication. Details of the results of the investigation into the conditions of the trade in Timothy, Alsike and Red Clover seeds were also published in bulletin form and freely distributed to farmers.

These investigations revealed the fact that certain dishonest seed merchants were supplying the farmers with seeds lacking in vitality or germinating power, and impure seeds with a large proportion of noxious weed seeds mixed with them. These investigations, together with the educational campaign carried on by the Seed Commissioner and his staff, led to the introduction by the Minister, in 1904, of the "Seed Control Act."

At two sessions of Parliament the Honorable Mr. Fisher discussed the enactment of a law to control the trade in agricultural seeds, and introduced a Bill for that purpose, but the obstructive and factious opposition of the Conservative members prevented its becoming law.

However, in the session following the general elections of 1904, the Minister had so prepared the public mind that he was enabled to perfect and pass the Act without much opposition. The Act provides that seed shall not be offered for sale at all when it contains even the smallest proportion of certain very noxious weed seeds. While other less noxious weed seeds can only be present in a small proportion in seed sold as of the first quality. The Act demands, moreover, that the seed merchants place the names of certain noxious weed seeds that may be present, plainly written on the label and attach it to the bag or bin when the seeds of such weeds are present in the seeds offered for sale. When it is considered that more than 30,000,000 acres of land are devoted to field crops in Canada, some idea may be formed of the enormous amount of seed required to sow this area. If by the use of better seed grain an increase of even one bushel an acre could be made in the average yield for all Canada, the total in grain alone would amount to over twelve and a half million bushels. Hence the Minister of Agriculture established the Seed Branch of his department under Mr. G. H. Clark, and enacted the "Seed Control Act, 1905." That branch is directing its operations mainly along two lines;—that looking to progress in field agriculture through giving encouragement in various ways, to the growing and selecting of seeds for field crops, and that for making permanent improvement in the quality of the seeds that enter into commerce.

With a view to render more efficient service in the matter of seed improvement, especially to the farmers who make seed growing a special industry, the Minister appointed five well trained men, competent to give practical instruction in the principles of growing and selecting seeds, and to inspect seeds offered in the trade in each of five districts: (1) Maritime Provinces, (2) Province of Quebec, (3) Province of Ontario, (4) the Provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and (5) the Provinces of Alberta and British Columbia.

This Division also co-operates with Agricultural Associations in the holding of Seed Fairs, at which valuable educational work is conducted. A Seed Laboratory was established in connection with the Division, primarily to conduct the work of investigation into the condition of the trade in agricultural seeds, but subsequently was fitted up with the latest improved apparatus for testing the purity and vitality of seeds of all kinds. Tests are made by any farmer or merchant who sends a sample, besides the official tests made under the provisions of the Act. The general

The officers of this Branch, co-operating with those of the Experimental Farm, rendered excellent service during the past year in connection with the Special Seed Grain Train provided through the enterprise of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, to educate the farmers of Western Canada how to cope with noxious weeds, smut in wheat, etc., and impress upon them the importance of securing the best seed. The Provincial Department of Agriculture and the Grain Growers' Associations co-operated in the good work, with the Railway and the Dominion Agricultural Department's officers. Altogether, 206 meetings were held, which were attended by nearly 27,000 people.

An evident result of the operations of this Branch has been an increasing demand among farmers for a high grade of seeds; the supply of a better class of seed by the merchants, and as an actual consequence a marked improvement in the quality and yield of field crops.

EXPERIMENTAL FARMS.

EXPENDITURE.

1895-06	\$ 77,500
1905-06	110,452
1907-08	110,805

REVENUE.

1895-96	\$ 6,338
1907-08	11,864
1907-08	Figures not yet available.

There has been since 1896 an increased distribution of samples of promising seed grain for the improvement of seed. Forty-five thousand farmers applied during the past season and were supplied with samples sufficient in size, if properly used for three years, to crop large areas. There has been increased expense through officers of the Farms attending more frequently meetings in all parts of Canada. There has been a more liberal expenditure on bulletins, a very large number of which are being issued and widely distributed.

The equipment and staff of the Farms have been largely increased and especially at the Central Experimental Farm a much better class of stock, chiefly pure bred animals, have been introduced. In 1901, purchases in Eng-land were made of the best types of milking Short Horns, Ayrshires and Guernseys and of pure bred cattle in Canada. Typical sheep and swine of the pure breeds were also acquired. Agricultural Societies and Farmers' Clubs have been purchasing the off-spring of these herds and thus the very best stock has been distributed throughout Canada.

Each Branch of the Farm has extended the scope of its work. An agriculturist and a cerealist have been added to the staff. A couple of experts have been appointed to the entomologists's division and the Chief Chemist given three assistants to aid him in his ever-expanding work. The experimental work which involves a large proportion of the expenditure has increased very largely. Special experiments in the culture and curing of products have been recently introduced and are attended with marked beneficial results.

To offset the increased expenditure, there has been an increased revenue, mainly from the Central Farm, where, through the appointment, in 1899, of J. H. Grisdale as agriculturist, 200 acres of the Farm was set aside to

be worked as a dairy farm. A systematic five-year rotation was introduced with the result that while the returns from the sale of produce in 1899 were valued at \$2,776.64, they had increased in 1905-1906 to \$5,971, on the same land and without the purchase of any manure. In 1899, 36 head of cattle were kept for the full year, and 30 extra head during the winter. In 1906, 110 cattle were kept the full year and 40 extra head during the winter.

If the wisdom of the increased expenditure is to be gauged by corresponding results, this is a splendid showing.

The Government have increased the number of branch farms, to assist the farmers, especially in the newer settled parts of the country, and in the older parts of Canada, where the conditions seem to require local experiments in crop-growing especially. It is the policy of the Minister to establish new stations wherever conditions justify it.

Other Departmental Work

In addition to the purely agricultural work of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, the Minister has also under his control the issue of Patents of Invention, the Human Quarantine against the introduction of disease at ocean ports and the frontier line. He has also charge of the Bureau of Census and Statistics, the Historical Archives of the Dominion, and the Foreign Exhibitions.

The Minister has re-organized the Patent Branch and appointed a larger number of examiners, so that the examination is now more thorough and reliable than it was in 1896, and affords a greater protection to the patentee against infringement of his patent. The number of patents issued annually has nearly doubled.

The Minister has created a Bureau of Public Health at Ottawa, with Dr. Montizambert in charge, and undertaken to enforce the provisions of the Public Works Health Act providing for medical and sanitary inspection of construction camps on all public works, including railways, canals, bridges, telegraphs and other works within the legislative authority of the Parliament of Canada. At the ocean ports the quarantine buildings have been enlarged and thoroughly equipped to meet the requirements of the largely increased immigration.

BRANCH OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS.

1895-96	\$14,065.10
1905-06	29,865.80

In 1905 an Act of Parliament was passed by the Minister of Agriculture providing for the establishment of a permanent Census and Statistics Branch, the object of which was to provide a trained staff to deal not only with the Decennial Census, but to take from time to time intermediate censuses and collect through various means other useful statistical information. When the work on the 1901 Census was completed the Minister retained some twenty or more of the best employees who have since been engaged on the Quinquennial Census of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, and about the same time on the manufacturing Census, and subsequently, last year, on an agricultural Census of Eastern Canada. The taking of these intermediate Censuses and the collection through up-to-date methods of the mass of other information has naturally entailed a large increase of expenditure, and at the same time it has enormously increased the usefulness of the Statistical Bureau. The advantages and beneficial results of this policy have been of late years gener-

ally recognized and there has been a keen demand for the extension of the work to the gathering of periodical reports during the season in regard to field crops, especially the leading cereals. In response to this demand a monthly publication, styled "The Census & Statistics Monthly," is now being issued. In addition to a detailed monthly report on the progress of field crops and of Live Stock in Canada there is an estimate of production gathered from a large number of official correspondents. The bulletin reproduces interesting reports of a similar character from other countries, and contains, under the heading "Departmental Notes," the earliest information of the greatest importance to the farming community. Bulletins are from time to time issued by the Bureau and given wide circulation.

Of the items above enumerated, those appearing in the Auditor-General's Report with the heading General Statistics, Criminal Statistics and Statistical Year Book are for the same purposes as the items similarly designated in the expenditure for 1895-96, except that the work has been in a marked degree developed and extended as above explained. In the latter year the account of the King's Printer and the salaries of the trained statistical workers form the bulk of the increase.

The Minister has been criticized because the census of the Western Provinces in 1906 cost more than the previous one in 1896. The sum expended for the taking of the Western Quinquennial Census as shown in the Auditor-General's Report for 1905-06, are only the preliminary expenses, the burden of which runs into the next year, 1906-07. The situations were totally different in 1896 and in 1906, so in estimating the cost an equivalent basis for comparison cannot be easily found. Besides a larger population to deal with there was a much larger number of forms of schedules used in the latter period as well as a much larger number of questions asked. In 1896 a marked financial depression existed. Labor was plentiful and cheap, while in 1906 business was booming, especially in the West, and there was a rate of remuneration had to be paid for taking the Census. There was some complaint in regard to the rate of pay fixed by the Department. Mr. Lake, M.P., questioned the Minister of Agriculture in the House of Commons on July 7th, 1906, (page 7437 Hansard), and voiced the dissatisfaction of some of the malcontents. Mr. Fisher, however, explained the situation in such a way as to satisfy Mr. Lake that the rates under all the circumstances were reasonable. Which tends to show that although the cost of taking the last Western Census was larger than was the case in 1896, still the people and press of the country far from complaining that there was any extravagance, had formed the opinion that the remuneration in 1906 was too small. In fact, the same situation in regard to increased cost occurred in this Western Census in 1906 as had occurred in the general census of 1901, the increased cost of which was fully justified by the Minister in the House of Commons.

ARCHIVES.

1895-96	
1905-06	\$ 5,968.78
	21,955.00

The Minister has recognized the national importance of this Branch of his Department. Under the old regime the national historical records were not safe from destruction by fire, nor was there sufficient room for storing them in proper order. There was a considerable mass of material without any systematic arrangement or index to facilitate access to the documents.

The Minister has had erected a suitable building specially adapted for the purposes of the work; a beautiful fire-proof building, spacious and well lighted, which has challenged the admiration of visitors to Ottawa. He has introduced order through a system of classification and indexing and has extended the lines of historical research by dividing the branch into several divisions with a specialist in charge of each. The Minister's action in this regard has received the highest commendation from both parties in the House of Commons. Not only is a large amount of historical data being made available but the old documents are being digested, classified, indexed and brought within easy reach of historical students and the reading public.

FOREIGN EXHIBITIONS.

1905-06 Expenditure \$121,067.00

The Foreign Exhibitions Branch is an entirely new feature. *It has been an important factor in stimulating Canadian export trade as well as investment of capital in Canadian industries and attracting the better class of immigrants.* Its effects are especially marked in Great Britain where in the last few years exhibitions have been held in London, Glasgow and Dublin, and again during the present year in London and Edinburgh. Concurrently with the holding of these exhibitions our exports of agricultural products to Great Britain have enormously increased in comparison with those of the preceding ten years.

These exhibitions have been very successful as compared with the displays of other countries, and have directed special attention to Canada's position in the agricultural, industrial and commercial world. They have especially stimulated immigration of the best classes of people, who travel, read and observe. The exhibits displayed and the information supplied are of such a practical character as to induce many capitalists to invest in Canadian enterprises and securities. In an age when commercial agencies are deemed not only important but necessary to the success of commercial ventures, these exhibitions are looked upon as essential to keep Canada and Canada's wares always in the forefront in international commercial competition. Owing to Canada's success in these exhibitions, as well on the Continent as in England, other Governments have recently followed Canada's example in appointing a permanent Exhibition Commissioner and staff whose expert knowledge might be utilized in insuring success for the country's exhibit abroad. All the progressive countries of the world now make it a practice to participate in large exhibitions, and follow Canada's lead in forming permanent exhibition organizations.

Canada's success has been largely due to the fact that the exhibitions have been thus entrusted to one Commissioner who has gained experience and knowledge as the work progressed. It is also due to the fact that the exhibits are arranged as a National Exhibit, without special regard to the different parts of the country, and consequently form a homogeneous and complete display of the varied products of the Dominion.

Agricultural Trade

RECORD OF PROGRESS MADE IN OUR EXPORT TRADE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

The following statistics show that there has been a marvellous increase in our agricultural exports. There is no doubt that the work done by the Agricultural Department, under the Liberal Administration, has been a large factor in the progress which has been made.

CANADIAN PRODUCE EXPORTED FROM CANADA BY CLASSES, 1885 to 1908.

Fiscal Year	CANADIAN PRODUCE EXPORTED		
	Animal Produce.	Agricultural Products.	Total.
1885.....	\$25,337,104	\$14,518,293	\$39,855,397
" " 1886.....	22,065,433	17,652,779	39,718,212
" " 1887.....	24,248,937	18,828,235	43,073,172
" " 1888.....	24,719,297	15,488,360	40,155,657
" " 1889.....	23,894,707	13,414,111	37,308,818
" " 1890.....	25,106,995	11,908,030	37,015,025
" " 1891.....	25,967,741	13,668,858	39,634,599
" " 1892.....	28,594,850	22,113,284	50,708,134
" " 1893.....	31,738,499	22,049,490	53,785,989
" " 1894.....	31,881,973	17,667,649	49,549,622
" " 1895.....	34,247,770	15,719,128	50,106,898
" " 1896.....	36,507,641	14,083,361	50,591,002
Exports under Conservative Rule, 12 years, 1885 to 1896....	\$334,448,947	\$197,005,578	\$531,512,525
1897.....	\$39,245,252	\$17,982,648	\$57,227,899
" " 1898.....	44,301,470	83,063,285	77,364,755
" " 1899.....	46,743,130	22,952,915	69,696,045
" " 1900.....	56,148,807	97,516,609	83,665,418
" " 1901.....	55,495,311	24,781,486	80,276,797
" " 1902.....	59,161,209	37,152,688	96,313,897
" " 1903.....	69,817,542	44,824,321	114,441,863
" " 1904.....	63,812,117	37,138,875	100,950,992
" " 1905.....	63,337,458	29,094,150	93,331,608
" " 1906.....	66,455,980	54,069,337	120,513,297
" " 1907.....	55,422,499	35,856,818	91,279,115
" " 1908.....	55,101,260	66,069,939	121,171,190
Exports under Liberal Rule, 12 years, 1897 to 1908.....	\$675,042,015	\$431,195,867	\$1,106,237,882

A COMPARISON OF PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS FOR THE YEARS 1896 (CONSERVATIVE) AND 1907 (LIBERAL.)

PRODUCTS.	Period of 12 months ending the fiscal year June 30th, 1906. 1896.		Period of 12 months ending the fiscal year March 31st, 1907. 1907.	
	Value.	Price.	Value.	Price.
Cattle to England.....	\$ 6,816,361	\$ 70.24	\$12,037,414	\$ 68.29
Cattle to the United States.....	8,870	5.39	525,777	55.50
Eggs.....	807,086	.127	577,599	.216
Butter.....	1,052,089	.127	4,686,148	.221
Cheese.....	13,956,571	.084	26,160,856	.123
Bacon, ham and pork.....	4,446,884	.08	12,269,470	.12
Beef.....	21,153	.051	182,055	.074
Mutton.....	7,458	.05	7,793	.08
Wheat.....	5,771,521	.53	30,229,432	.80
Wheat flour.....	718,433	3.85	5,633,704	3.77
Oats.....	278,861	.28	2,292,972	.414
Pease.....	1,299,491	.73	799,686	1.08
Corn.....	8,548	.36	22,589	.55
Buckwheat.....	178,689	.42	233,420	.54
Potatoes.....	227,606	.38	526,411	.816
Hay.....	1,976,431	9.21	1,531,241	8.44
Poultry.....	18,992	....	74,884	....
Apples, green or ripe.....	1,418,470	2.50	2,702,623	2.80
Horses.....	2,113,095	96.70	524,431	205.00
Sheep.....	2,151,283	5.50	1,330,455	5.18
Total values.....	\$43,260,897		\$102,405,960	
			43,260,897	
Increase under Liberal administration.....			\$59,145,063	

NOTE: Parliament, in the Session of 1906, changed the fiscal year so that from thenceforward it ends on the 31st of March in each year instead of the 30th of June as heretofore. The table now referred to has been prepared so as to bring the prices up to the latest date for which the figures are available.

TRADE OF CANADA FOR THE THREE YEARS, 1896, 1906 AND 1908 COIN AND BULLION EXCLUDED.

	1896.	1906.	1908.
Total exports, home products....	\$109,707,805	\$235,483,956	\$246,960,968
Total imports, for consumption..	112,785,189	287,207,412	358,428,616
Total trade	222,492,994	522,691,368	605,389,584
Total exports, Agriculture	50,591,000	120,518,297	131,462,717

AGGREGATE TRADE OF CANADA, INCLUDING FOREIGN PRO- DUCE AS WELL AS COIN AND BULLION.

	1896.	1906.	1908.
Exports	\$121,013,852	\$256,586,630	\$280,006,606
Imports	118,011,508	294,286,015	370,786,525
Total aggregate trade	239,025,360	550,872,645	650,793,131

THE TARIFF.

Efforts have been made to induce the farmers of Canada to favor higher protection, to the end that there might be thus provided for the agriculturists a larger and better home market.

The present Government has followed a different policy with very successful results. *It has either put on the free list or reduced the duty on very many of the articles which may be considered as the farmers' raw material.*

Among those placed on the free list are:

- Corn, for feeding purposes.
- Wire, for fencing purposes.
- Binder twine, chains, mould boards, or shares.
- Crude petroleum for fuel.
- Cream separators and steel bowls for same.

Substantial reductions were made on the following articles picked out at random from the tariff items:

- Mowing machines, harvesters, reapers.
- Portable engines, horse powers, and traction engines, for farm purposes.
- Windstackers, threshing machines, separators, and parts thereof.
- Axes, scythes, sickles, hay or straw knives, edging knives, hoes, rakes, and pronged forks.
- Hay loaders, potato diggers, fodder or feed cutters, grain crushers, fanning mills, hay tedders, farm, road or field rollers, post-hole diggers, snaths and other agricultural implements not otherwise specified.
- Stoves of all kinds for coal, wood, oil, spirit or gas.
- Lubricating oil, reduced from six cents to two and a half cents per gallon.
- Kerosene (coal oil), reduced from six cents to two and one-half cents per gallon.

Besides the reductions under the general tariff there is the preference on goods imported from Great Britain and some other parts of the British Empire, in the vicinity of thirty-three per cent.

The whole tariff has been so reduced that the rate on the total sum of our importations has decreased no less than from fifteen to sixteen per cent, compared with what it was in 1896.

The effect of these reductions has not been the dire ruin and disaster for the industries of Canada which Sir Charles Tupper predicted in 1897. The export figures show the very reverse, and that the "larger and better home market" which is promised the farmers if they will only consent to a tariff as high as Haman's gallows the farmers already possess with the gradual lowering revenue tariff. The exports of manufactures which in 1896 were only \$9,365,384, had by 1906 risen to \$24,561,112.

Free Rural Mail Delivery for Canada.

At the great demonstration to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, at Niagara, Ont., on September 15th, the Postmaster General, Hon Rodolphe Lemieux, made an epoch-marking announcement in regard to Free Rural Mail Delivery. His words were greeted with the utmost enthusiasm by the 18,000 farmers present.

He prefaced that announcement by some very interesting data concerning the P.O. Department. There had been a deficit of over \$700,000 the last year of Conservative rule. This had been gradually converted into annual surpluses. Last year the surplus amounted to \$1,100,000, the grand total since 1903 being \$4,282,219. That splendid result was accompanied by a steady reduction in the postal rates, so that the general letter rate from three cents had been reduced to two, the drop letter rate from two to one, the rate to all parts of the British Empire from five to two. An important out had been made on the Canadian and on British newspapers. The latter "*the Intellectual Preference, had promoted throughout the length and breadth of Canada the true spirit of loyalty and devotion to the Mother Country.*"

At the same time that these substantial reductions were being made,—lessening by at least three or four million dollars annually the burden of the people, compared with what they would be if the old rates were paid on the same amount of mailing matter—the postal services were being extended and improved in accordance with the rapidly expanding needs of Canada.

On the all important topic of Free Rural Delivery, the Postmaster General spoke as follows :

"There is in store for Canada another great postal reform which is of particular interest to the farming community. I refer to that system known as the free rural mail delivery."

"This system, which is only an expansion of the letter delivery from the cities to the rural sections of the country, has been in vogue for a long time in Great Britain, France and Germany. Now lately it was adopted by the United States. I have stated in the House of Commons that it was not possible for Canada at the present time to assume a similar burden, and my statement was based on the well-known fact that the conditions which would warrant rural delivery were thick populations and large revenues. Such is the case with Great Britain, with a population of forty-four millions and an area of 120,000 square miles, i.e., about the size of Ontario, with six times the population of the whole Dominion."

"In the United States there is an area no larger than that of Canada to be served; but there is a population of eighty-three millions as against six here, and a postal revenue of one hundred and eighty-three millions as against nine here."

"In other words, with, say an equal area, there is in the United States a population fourteen times as great as ours, and a revenue twenty times as great to bear the cost of the free rural mail delivery. Let it be remembered also that the United States only adopted the system when they had seventy million people, and a postal revenue of over eighty millions."

"As I have often stated in Parliament, it is a splendid system, which I admire greatly, and which can be introduced step by step in Canada. For some

two or three years, acting under my instructions, the officers of the department have been studying the main features of rural free delivery as operated in the United States, with a view to the possible introduction of a schema in accordance with our revenue, population and physical conditions."

THE SYSTEM EVOLVED.

"Towards that end the Post Office Department has evolved a scheme of rural free delivery and collection from the present system of stage routes, whereby the rural population of the country may be able to receive and post all ordinary mail matter at their doors, instead of having to drive from two to three miles to the nearest post office for that purpose."

"I have therefore determined, with the consent of my colleagues, to equip all existing mail routes in Canada with rural delivery boxes, under regulations to be published and enforced shortly. At the junction of every communication line with the main road the people will also be given the privilege of having boxes located for the receipt and collection of their mail, as desired."

"The department has made all arrangements for the carrying out of the scheme, and will at once proceed to inaugurate it. This system of rural mail delivery can be introduced at a cost which the country can afford to pay. It will evolve and expand gradually, with the growth and development of Canada, and at a ratio of cost that will not prove burdensome. It is, on the whole, a great postal reform which will be hailed with delight by the Farmers of Canada."

The Cattle Embargo.

The Conservatives tried during the last Session, to make cheap political capital out of the Embargo against Canadian cattle exported to Great Britain. The electors of Canada will be interested in knowing what are the facts in regard to this question and to what extent preceding administrations were responsible for a state of things that all patriotic Canadians deplore. We shall first briefly review facts.

The Embargo on Canadian cattle was imposed under the provisions of the "Animals' Order of 1892," by the Board of Agriculture, on the ground that Canadian cattle were affected with pleuro-pneumonia. Thereafter Canadian cattle had to be slaughtered within ten days after arrival at a British port and were subjected to inspection at the time of landing.

This was a death blow to the Canadian stocker trade, which consisted in shipping unfinished cattle to be held in England for feeding and fattening there.

This Embargo was, by Act of the British Parliament, in 1896, made statutory and has been persistently maintained in spite of the protests of the Canadian Government, the Scotch and English feeders and many other agricultural bodies in the Old Country.

However, in view of the freedom of Canadian herds from disease, in 1898, the present Minister of Agriculture, The Honourable Sydney Fisher, went to England and interviewed the Right Honourable Mr. Hanbury, then President of the Board of Agriculture, to try through discussion to arrive at some basis for action looking to the repeal of the Act of 1896. Mr. Hanbury, while recognizing as well founded the statement of the Canadian Minister that Canadian herds had been and then were free from disease, and that the Veterinary organization for stamping out disease in Canada and a protection against its introduction from outside—was satisfactory, still gave no encouragement that any change was feasible or even possible.

The Minister followed up the representations by statements of the same character embodied in an Order-in-Council passed in 1901, and forwarded through official channels. The Minister, during the same year, went in person to England and once more urged repeal of the Act, but without success.

Another Order-in-Council, practically of the same purport as that of 1901, was passed in 1902 and communicated to the English authorities. At the same time negotiations were renewed by Sir William Muirlock, who at that time was in England attending the Colonial Conference. At that Conference notice was given on behalf of the Canadian Government of a Resolution favouring the removal of the Embargo. The Conference was of the opinion that the question concerned the Imperial and Canadian Governments only and, on a suggestion of Mr. Chamberlain and Sir Wilfrid Laurier, it was arranged, at a meeting of the Conference on the 5th of August, that the subject should be referred to the Right Honourable Mr. Hanbury, and to Sir William Muirlock, on behalf of the Canadian Government. Sir William conferred with Mr. Hanbury but without success. Pursuant to an understanding with the Canadian Minister of Agriculture he urged the extension of the 10 day period allowed for slaughter, but there also was met with a refusal.

In February, 1903, at the very moment when a resolution was being prepared for presentation to the Canadian Parliament, Mr. Price, the Member for East Norfolk, introduced into the British House an amendment to the Embargo Act, "Humbly representing to His Majesty that the absence of cattle disease in the Dominion of Canada and the requirements of cattle feeders in this country justify the repeal of the law which excludes Canadian store cattle from our markets."

The Canadian case was strongly presented by Mr. Price who found many warm supporters. Still, upon the division of the House, there voted for the amendment 30 and 190 against it showing an adverse majority of 152.

In 1902, there was in the New England States, an outbreak of Foot and Mouth disease. The United States Government strictly quarantined the infected States and the British authorities put an absolute prohibition on the importation of cattle from these quarantined States. The Canadian Government also absolutely prohibited the passage of any cattle or cattle cars between the said States and Canada. In a few months the United States authorities stamped out the disease completely. The British authorities then removed the prohibition from these States and the Canadian Government did the same. During the period of this prohibition there was no stoppage of the usual trade between the other parts of the United States and Canada nor between Canada and Great Britain. The fact that there was no spread of the disease shows that the Imperial authorities as well as the Canadian Government were quite satisfied with the efficiency of the United States Bureau of animal industry, and the Imperial authorities as well as the United States were quite satisfied that Canada could protect herself against any risks of contagion from that portion of the United States where disease existed. The channels of trade were as free as they had been before the outbreak, and the confidence of these countries was entirely justified by the fact that there was no spread of the disease into Canada.

In the Aberdeen Journal, of the 26th of October, 1904, there appeared the report of a public meeting at which the Right Honourable The Earl of Onslow, then President of the Board of Agriculture, in speaking of the Embargo, made use of the following words:—"If there was a strong feeling on the part of the Canadian people, that might weigh in their counsels, but he read the Canadian papers on this subject with much care, and he gathered that they were quite satisfied with the removal of the stigma on Canadian herds. They suffered a great deal from what they believed to be a wrongful

imputation that disease existed in Canada, and that being removed, they were quite content, they said."

The Canadian Minister of Agriculture passed an Order-in-Council to serve as the basis of a dispatch which was forwarded to the English authorities protesting against this assumption that Canada was quite content with the removal of the stigma on Canadian herds. The Canadian Minister said that Lord Onslow was laboring under a grave misapprehension as to the state of Canadian feeling and opinion on this subject. That the Canadian people were fully alive to the serious loss and waste inflicted on the cattle producers and shippers of the Dominion by the present Act. The Minister also expressed the opinion that definite action should be taken to correct any impression to the contrary.

Notwithstanding their previous lack of success many large and influential bodies of agriculturists, both in England and Scotland, kept up the agitation for the repeal of the Embargo, and in this good work they were continually aided and supported through communications and information from the Canadian Government and even from the Canadian Parliament, which first in the Senate, on April 6th, 1905, and in the House of Commons, on the 7th of July of the same year (1905), debated the question fully.

The Canadian Senate passed a resolution which after briefly reciting the essential facts, said that "under these circumstances the continued prohibition on the pretext that there is danger of the spread of these particular diseases among the British herds is an unjust imputation on the condition of Canadian cattle," and the Senate respectfully suggest "that the Imperial Act based thereon should be repealed."

Lord Lyttleton, the Colonial Secretary, replied to this resolution stating, "that His Majesty's Government had given the fullest consideration to the representations made to them on the subject but much regret that they feel themselves unable to propose to Parliament any amendment of the existing Law."

THE CONSERVATIVES TRY TO MAKE POLITICAL CAPITAL.

On the 20th of June, 1905, there was passed by the Committee on Agriculture in the House of Commons a Resolution which came up for debate in the Canadian House of Commons on the 7th of July following, which asked that a deputation comprising the Federal and the Provincial Ministers of Agriculture, should make representations on the subject. The London Times of June 8th, 1905, reports that on the previous day, Sir John Leng, in the British House of Commons, drew attention to Hon. Sydney Fisher's statement in the Canadian House, "that the continuance by Great Britain of an embargo on Canadian cattle could only be described as an unfriendly act," and asked—in view of the High Commissioner's protest for "such concessions as will allay the existing irritation and conduce to a better understanding with the Canadian Government."

Lord Lyttleton, in reply, denied there had been any protest by the High Commissioner, that, in accord with five predecessors, the then President of the Board of Agriculture "felt it impossible to depart from a policy deliberately arrived at and to incur the risk which undoubtedly attaches to the importation of live cattle from a country which, though it may be at a given moment free from cattle disease itself, has an open frontier of over 4,000 miles in extent. I have no doubt that the Canadian Government and public fully appreciate the gravity of the risks involved, and the facilities given for the importation of fat cattle, subject to slaughter on arrival, appear to me to be calculated to redress to the utmost any hardship which the necessary restrictions on importation impose on the industry."

On the first of August 1905, before any representations in pursuance of the Resolution of the Committee of Agriculture of the Canadian House of Commons could have been made to the British authorities, the Board of Agriculture addressed to Lord Lyttleton a letter which was communicated to the Canadian Government and in which reference was made to the Embargo as follows.—

"Experience has shown that the existing statutory requirements that all cattle imported into this country shall be slaughtered in wharves provided for the purpose at the port of landing is no obstacle to the development and maintenance of a large and valuable trade. In the case of Argentina, the number of cattle imported into Great Britain steadily rose from 4,200 in 1891 to 85,000 in 1899, when the trade was interrupted by the introduction of Foot and Mouth disease in the country. The value of the imports in question was £68,000 in 1901 and £1,392,000 in 1899. During the whole of that period the requirement of slaughter was in force. The case of the United States shows similar results. The number of cattle imported in 1879 was 76,000 with a value of £1,782,000. In 1904 the number imported was 401,000 with a value of £7,160,000.

"Slaughter at the port of landing was required for the first time in 1879 and has been enforced ever since. The Board are glad to observe that similar results are indicated in the case of Canada. The imports during the past two years have been as follows :

No. of cattle imported :	Declared value :
1903. 190,812	£3,315,762
1904. 146,598	£2,547,451

"The highest figure recorded prior to 1892, when the slaughter at the port of landing was first required, was in 1890. The imports in that year were 120,469 with a declared value of £1,892,298. The existing law does not cast any stigma or discredit upon Canadian cattle, for it holds good not only in the case of the United States and other countries, but also in that of every British Colony, including both Australia and New Zealand whence live cattle have in the past been imported into Great Britain. It is in fact a sanitary law of universal application of great importance to stock-owners at home as a valuable safeguard against the introduction of disease, but not at all inconsistent with the transaction of a large and growing trade, as already shown.

"The experience of Argentina in 1900, and more recently of the United States in 1902, has shown how suddenly and unexpectedly Foot and Mouth Disease may make its appearance in a country, quite irrespective of the maintenance of an efficient veterinary organization. In the former case diseased animals were actually imported into this country, and it was only by dint of good fortune and the most strenuous exertions that the infection was kept within the limits of the Foreign Animals Wharves. A similar result might well have happened in 1902 in the case of the United States, notwithstanding the ability and the energy of the Department of Agriculture in that country."

"The enormous losses which British agriculturists have suffered during the last thirty years, mainly by reason of the increased pressure of colonial and foreign competition, make it more than ever necessary that every possible precaution should be taken against the introduction of diseases, consistent with the reasonable requirements of colonial producers and the interests of consumers at home. The consequences of the recurrence in Great Britain of epidemics of disease, such as have been experienced in the past, would now be disastrous, and consumers as well as producers would be affected throughout the country. It is therefore in the general interest that no risk should be taken which can be avoided by the maintenance of a law which provides a considerable measure of security against the introduction of disease, and at

the same time does so without any serious stoppage of trade and without rendering it necessary for any action of an invidious character to be taken in regard to the cattle imported from a particular colony or country."

On the first of August the Board of Agriculture addressed the above emphatic statement of the British side of the case to Lord Lyttleton, Secretary of State for the Colonies. The Canadian House of Commons adopted the report of the Agriculture Committee embodying the Resolution on the 7th of July. With such emphatic declarations, at the very time, from the authorities in England it would certainly have been worse than useless, and undignified, for the Canadian Government to carry out the proposal in the said Resolution.

In the month of February last (1908), Mr. Armstrong, the Conservative member for East Lambton, asked in the House of Commons, for a return showing what had been done since 1903 in regard to removing the Embargo, and asked specially why the Canadian Minister of Agriculture did not take action on the lines indicated in the Resolution of the Agricultural Committee.

In reply, the Minister of Agriculture produced in the House of Commons all the communications that had passed, during that period, between the Canadian Government and the British Authorities. In that correspondence was included the letter, just quoted, from the British Board of Agriculture, dated August 1st, 1905, which ought to have satisfied the Opposition that further action, at that time, by the Government would have been futile and absurd. *Still in pursuance of their policy of factious Opposition and obstruction during the Session of the present year the matter was once more threshed out by the Conservative members who, in desperation to find a grievance against the Minister of Agriculture, conveniently ignored the facts of the case as shown by the return which the Minister had just made to Parliament.*

BRITISH FRIENDS OF REPEAL MAKE FUTILE EFFORTS.

To return to the history of events, on the 6th of April, 1906, Mr. Cairns, the British member for Newcastle-on-Tyne, moved the second reading of his Bill, asking for the exemption of Canadian cattle from the provisions of the Embargo Act of 1894 and 1896 as to slaughter at the port of landing and quarantine.

The introduction of this Bill was preceded by a series of communications between the British Parliamentary friends of repeal and the Canadian Minister of Agriculture, and notably between the Canadian Minister and Lord Strathcona. The Minister took particular pains to impress upon the English advocates of repeal the thorough Veterinary organization that existed in Canada for the stamping out of disease and against its introduction from outside, and communicated to them Hansard containing reports of the debates in the House during July, 1905.

The most strenuous opponent of the Bill was the Hon. Mr. Long, who was President of the Board of Agriculture at the time the Act of 1896 was passed. Mr. Cairns, M.P., and Mr. Hamar Greenwood, M.P. (Canadian born), both of whom had been in communication with the Canadian Minister of Agriculture, were the chief champions of the Bill. The Prime Minister was non-committal.

The following is the concluding portion of Mr. Greenwood's speech:—
"One of the strongest, if not the paramount reason, why Canadians wished to have this Embargo removed, was that the intolerable stigma of this accusation of disease against Canada might be swept off the Statute Books of this country and that Canadian efficiency in bringing the herds of Canada to the highest standard of efficiency might be properly recognized. In reference to the suggestion that the frontier line of Canada gave no protection against the introduction through Canada of diseased American cattle, he

assured the House that there was no disease near the frontier, and that in any case the frontier line was as carefully controlled by Government as any frontier line in the world."

The failure of this Parliamentary action was so discouraging that whatever prospects of success had previously existed seemed for a time to have disappeared. Still, when in 1907, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the Prime Minister of Canada, attended the Imperial Conference, he took occasion to impress the matter upon the British Government and to state that it would be regarded by the people of Canada as a very gracious act on their part if the Embargo were removed. Lord Elgin, then Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the 25th of July, 1907, communicated to the Canadian authorities a letter from the Board of Agriculture, with reference to the observations made at the recent Colonial Conference by Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The letter in question goes into the matter anew quite fully, on the same lines as that of August 1st, 1905, previously quoted, concluding that "His Majesty's Government are unable to propose to Parliament any amendment of the existing law on the subject."

In July of the present year (1908), in reply to Mr. McArthur, M.P., who, in the British House of Commons, drew attention to the diminished supplies of native and foreign animals for slaughter, and the enhanced price of beef to the consumer, Sir Edward Strachey, on behalf of the Government, said:—

"The Board have no evidence of any decrease in the number of native cattle and inasmuch as there has been an increase in the number of milching cows in recent years, there does not appear to have been any difficulty in replacing them. There is no present intention of proposing legislation in the direction suggested."

RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CONSERVATIVES.

Unfortunately for the reputation of Canadian cattle abroad, the Conservative Canadian Government, previous to 1896 spent a very small sum for the Cattle Quarantine and diseases of animals. The "English Animals Order," excluding Canadian cattle was passed in 1852. In the year 1891-92 only \$19,730 was spent in Canada for these purposes, against \$33,238 ten years later. In 1894-95, the year before the Embargo became statutory, \$22,012 was spent against \$190,253 ten years later. In 1895-96, the year the Embargo became statutory, the expenditure was slightly increased to \$31,419; ten years later, it was \$421,993.

No wonder the English authorities had no confidence in the ability of the Canadian Government to control disease in the period from 1890 to 1896, when all the trouble arose. In the Minister's report for 1895-96, Doctor McEachran, then the Dominion Veterinary General, states, at page 29:—"By referring to the report of Hog Cholera in the Counties of Essex and Kent, Ontario, it is to be regretted that this disease has been allowed to exist for a number of years and spread over a considerable area of country, the full extent of which cannot be said to have been ascertained."

Further on, the Doctor states that, "unfortunately 11 years ago, swine plague was by some undetermined means introduced in the County of Essex, Ont., when 143 farms were declared infected. It also appeared in the County of Kent, in 1899, and has been allowed to continue to exist and break out periodically ever since." "During the past twelve months no less than fifty-seven outbreaks occurred and as many farms infected, causing the loss by death or slaughter of 925 hogs of various ages, and no compensation was paid." Dr. McEachran states further, on page 41,—"It is a well known fact that when owners feel that they are not fairly indemnified for their animals slaughtered for the protection of public health, many instead of voluntarily aiding

in carrying out the law will evade it and will sell off suspicious animals, and in this way the very measures intended to confine the disease will extend it."

During the last decade, and especially since the year 1902, when Dr. Rutherford succeeded Dr. McEachran and devoted his whole time to the work with headquarters at Ottawa, there has been a comprehensive scheme of control. The staff has been constantly added to and strengthened, and a liberal policy of compensation adopted and thoroughly carried out. It is true that such a policy sometimes involves a large expenditure, which in 1905-06 reached the sum of \$421,993. In that year, however, disease was effectively stamped out in so many previously infected districts, that in 1906-07 the expenditure for the same service had dropped to \$276,667.

The Government in power previous to 1896 does not appear ever to have realized the necessity for such strong and effective organization and the consequent increased expenditure. They persisted in a penny-wise-pound-foolish policy even until the Embargo in 1896 became statutory. Their Chief Veterinary Inspector, in the official reports, remonstrated in vain because moneys needed for compensation were refused. Are they to be held blameless for the consequences, and especially for the suspicion that was aroused among the English officials that, in the Canadian organization, there was lack of effective control and that diseased animals were being allowed to slip through into the foreign markets? Still, instead of wearing in all humility the sackcloth of repentance, we find Conservative members of Parliament now inveighing against the Government that has brought that organization to a high state of efficiency and abusing the Minister of Agriculture for not continually nagging at the British Authorities for the removal of the Embargo.

CONCLUSIONS.

Since the change of the Government in Canada, in 1896, the Minister of Agriculture has constantly and consistently, in and out of season, presented every available argument and adopted every measure which might conduce to the removal of the Embargo. Official communications were supplemented by direct personal appeals. The support of as many as possible of the influential friends of the repeal in England was enlisted and especially the friendly members of the British Parliament were continually supplied with the best and latest information on the subject. The friendly agencies thus created have been quite persistent in their efforts to favorably influence the other members and the people of England generally. The Minister of Agriculture, while he has avoided needless nagging of the Authorities with undignified reiteration of Canada's case, has neglected no real opportunity to make representations whenever events seemed to indicate that there was the faintest prospect of success.

These representations, outlined in the foregoing sketch, both official and informal, and the work of the friendly agencies thus established, did not fail to make a deep impression, and there is ground for the hope that in a comparatively short time Canada may win over the pledged support of a majority of the British House of Commons and of the Ministers.

