HON. J. H. MYERS MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

Reviews Financial Situation, And Successfully Refutes the Opposition criticism Levelled at The Government's Policy

Speaking during the Budget Debate in the Provincial Legislature April 2nd, Hon. Mr. Myers, Minister of Agriculture, referred first to some remarks made by the hon. member who had just resumed his seat (Mr. Blanchard), who had taken up more time and said less than probably any other speaker during the session. When one deducted from his address remarks that should never have been allowed to pass, there was so little left that it would be hard to recognize it as a speech at all. Hon. Mr. Myers continued:

The hon. member quoted my friend from Charlottetown (Hon. Dr. McMillan) as saying that a third-class teacher was just as good as a first-class teacher. I think I will put my reputation for understanding and my faculty of hearing against that of the hon. gentleman from Tignish, and I have never yet heard my hon. friend from Charlottetown make such a statement.

The hon. member also said that we had fifteen less small schools in the Province today than we had a year ago. If he had remained in his seat I would have been able to tell him the reason why. It is because the educational affairs and the School Act are today being administered, as every Act should be administered, fairly, squarely and impartially. During the reign of the late Bell Government they made no attempt whatever to secure larger attendance at our country schools. If a teacher's average fell down and there was to be a corresponding cut in the salary, all some of the party heelers of the Bell Government had to do was to come from that school district, go to the Superintendent of Education, and he would say "All right, we will make up the deficiency." That has been changed, and when there is a deficiency in the teacher's salary in the school district now there are just two things to do. See to it that the students in your district attend regularly, that the average may be kept up, or let the district make up the deficiency in the salary. That is why we have fifteen less small schools this year than heretofore.

The member from Tignish (Mr. Blanchard) mentioned the fact that the city of Charlottetown receives more benefit from the money voted for Education than the country districts. That is not a fair parallel. It is only stating one side of the case. As I showed my hon. friend when speaking on the Draft Address, the country students, notwithstanding any handicap they may be under, are more than able to hold their own with the students from the city. So far as the matter of expenditure is concerned, I might turn the tables and say, "Look at the vast sums of money expended throughout the country districts for roads, and in my own Department of Agriculture, I would ask the hon. member, "What benefit, if any, is the City deriving from this?" **We can't divide things up that way. We are a unit. We must put these advantages one against the other to the best of our ability, and average things up.**

Mr. Blanchard Corrected.

The hon. gentleman took a fling at the Prohibition Law. He made a statement which I do not think any other member in this House would have made, — **a statement which should not have been allowed to go unchallenged; that was altogether beside the fact;** and that statement was, that the Government of today is a rum-selling Government. That statement should never have been allowed to pass on the floor of this House, because it is not in accordance with the facts. The gentleman knows, and no one knows it better, that this Government, or the late Government, had practically nothing to **do with the administration of the Prohibition Law.** He knows that during the Mathieson regime the enforcement of the Prohibition Law was taken out of the hands of the Government altogether. A Commission was appointed. That Commission was allowed to operate during the four years of the Bell Government and is operating today. The Government of the day have practically nothing whatever to do with the administration of the Prohibition Law.

I think I showed my hon. friend a few nights ago, that as far as the administration of the Prohibition Law is concerned, it is just as well, or better, administered today than ever. I have taken statistics to prove it. The Police Court records of Charlottetown show that there were fifty per cent. less convictions for drunkenness during the past year than any other year since records were kept in this City. I think that is a complete answer to the criticisms of my hon. friend, levelled against the Government with reference to Prohibition. (Applause.)

He tells us that the Bell Government reduced the debt of the Province $100,000 in four years. I knew that before; I was told it on every platform in the Fourth District during the last election. There is an easy explanation for that which I purpose to give later on. He also said that this Government was following in the footsteps of the late Government and that the Premier had lately been in Ottawa at the Good Roads Conference asking for an extension of the good roads grant in order that we might secure more money for expenditure on highways. That is not in accordance with facts. The Premier did not attend the Good Roads Conference. He was in Ottawa on other business. Mr. Shaw went up because he was a member of the Conference, and so far as I am aware this Province did not ask for a single additional dollar. The main object of the Conference was to provide for some of the Western Provinces who came into this good roads scheme later. Their grant had not been taken up and in order to allow them to do so, the time was extended; but no more money has been voted for road work by the Dominion Government, and my hon. friend ought to know that very well.

Finances and the External Audit.

He spoke about the reduction of debt by $100,000. That brings me to the question of the sinking fund. I remember during that campaign of 1923, from every platform we heard that story from Mr. Bell and his followers, that they had added $25,000 a year to the sinking funds, which was a reduction of $100,000 in four years. I would just like to go into that for a few minutes and in order to do that I would direct the attention of the House to the report of Mr. Blanchet who was employed by this Government to go into the finances of the Province and show exactly where we stood. I would like to read the warrant that Mr. Blanchet received from this Government:

1. "To ascertain the exact debt of the Province up to and including the 5th day of Sept., 1923.
2. Ascertain all liabilities accrued due and payable up to the said 5th day of September, A.D. 1923.
3. Ascertain all liabilities which the Government of Prince Edward Island is now under and which are not now payable and not accrued due on the said 5th day of September, A.D. 1923.
4. Give a full list of all contracts relating to each Department made by the Government up to the said 5th day of September, A.D. 1923, stating in tabulated form how much is due on such contracts, how much is paid thereon, with dates of payment hereafter to be made.
5. Generally to make such full and complete enquiry into and examination of the finances and affairs of the Province as will enable him to give a correct report thereon.
6. To make such suggestions and recommendations regarding the proper system of keeping accounts or the simplification or improvement of the existing system, and respecting such other matters relating to the finances of the Province as he may deem avisable."

That was pretty wide scope for an auditor. We did not say, "We want you to cook up an account to make things look bad for the Bell Government and good for us." We said, **"We want you to find the true financial condition." We paid him for that; we wanted the truth and nothing but the truth, and we got it!** (Applause.)

If you turn to Mr. Blanchet's report (pages 3 and 4) you will find the Sinking Funds invested as follows:

Charlottetown and P. E. I. bonds	$134,500.00
Victory bonds	95,500.00
Government P. E. I. deposit receipts	2,844.56

This is the way they were invested at December 31st, 1921. At December 31st, 1922, however, we find a different story altogether, for on that date we find the investments as follows:

Charlottetown and P. E. I. bonds	$134,500.00
Government P. E. I. deposit receipts	148,125.79

Showing that during the year 1922 the $95,500.00 Victory bonds had been sold and the proceeds turned into general revenue. Not only this, but we find also that during 1922 the Sinking Fund levy of $10,470 and $27,978.41 collected under the Motor Vehicle Act went to the credit of the General Account. **Mr. Speaker, this was not only unsound financing but it was a distinct breach of faith with those who had invested money in P. E. Island securities.**

Proper Business Methods.

In carrying on the finances of the Province it is necessary from time to time to borrow money for carrying on the public affairs, but one of the underlying principles of such financing must always be observed, and that is that adequate provision for sinking funds must be provided in order that the amount borrowed may be liquidated at the end of the term and the debt automatically discharged.

I might remind my hon. friends that there is nothing new in this; it is a practice of business men. If a man wants a loan of $5000 or $6000 on a farm, he will be placed under certain obligations. These obligations would represent for the most part the sinking funds of the Province. He would be asked to keep his farm in proper condition, his fences and buildings in proper repair, his machinery kept up to requirements, and his property insured. In that way, and in that way only, the man loaning the money on the farm would have his security. If he finds, on the contrary, that the tenant of the farm is allowing things to fall into decay, practising bad methods of farming, so that the price of his farm would be reduced in value, he would have no other course open but to close down on the loan and sell him out. **That is the position my hon. friends put the Province in by their practice for four years.**

I might read a letter from the Bond Dealers' Association of Canada which I have here:—

"At the last annual meeting of the Bond Dealers' Association of Canada, considerable attention was devoted to the subject of Sinking Funds. During the year there has been a continuous stream of inquiry from all conceivable sources, including Great Britain and the United States, regarding the position of our Dominion, Provincial and Municipal Sinking Funds. At the last Executive Committee meeting of the Bond Dealers' Association a resolution was passed, a copy of which is enclosed herewith.

"In view of the critical attitude of these inquiries, especially on the part of large investors, and in view of the fact that, at the present time, our Provincial Sinking Funds fall far short of the actual theoretical requirements sufficient to retire the outstanding obligations at their maturity, the members of our Association considered it to be urgent that our Provinces give serious attention to the condition of sinking funds and formulate businesslike policies of debt retirement. It is important that the authorities should take early occasion to make provision in this connection to maintain the high credit standing which we have hitherto enjoyed."

What action were my hon. friends taking during the past four years to maintain the highly creditable standard that we have hitherto enjoyed? That is the way they account for their reduction of debt, by depleting the sinking funds, which they had absolutely no right to touch. (Applause.) And I am glad to be able to tell the House that that money has been credited back to the sinking funds, and we are in such a position today that we can approach the bond dealers and put up a genuine proposition; **we can show them just where we stand, and we stand just where we show them.**

A Brief Review.

The Leader of the Opposition yesterday wandered far afield. In order to cover the ground and follow him as I would like to do it will be necessary for a short time to review some of the political history of our Province, though I give the House the assurance that I will not go nearly so far back into ancient political history as my hon. friend from the First District.

I would just like to review the campaign of 1919, and I do not think there is a member in this House who is in a better position to review that campaign than I myself. I had the privilege of contesting the election for the grand old Fourth District of Prince against the former Commissioner of Agriculture and his colleague, Premier Bell. They always told the same story, night after night. They had it down so fine that they simply couldn't make a mistake. I have a fairly good memory, and I happen to remember the story very well. Though the tide was against the Conservative party on that occasion, I had the pleasure at that election of cutting down the majority of that wonderful Commissioner of Agriculture by over one hundred, **and last campaign I finished up the job.** (Applause.) You remember, Mr. Speaker, that previous to 1919, owing to the high cost of living, largely brought about by the war, the teachers considered that they were not receiving sufficient salary. Living expenses had almost doubled and in order to provide for this Premier Arsenault came before the people in 1919 with an honest, open statement that he required more money, and asked the people to help him get it. What was the attitude of our hon. friends in the Opposition on that occasion? No one knows it better than myself, for I listened to it for thirteen or fourteen nights in the Fourth District, and on each and every occasion they came before the people Mr. Bell's statement was this: **"We don't need to do that; there is no necssity for it. Put us in power and with the then existing revenue at our disposal, by dismissing a number of useless officials and by practicing economy we will not only be able to make revenue and expenditure meet, and give efficient public service, but we will be able to double th teachers' salaries."** That was the statement and I challenge any man in the Opposition to deny it! The people didn't know him, then; he put that rosy proposition before them and he fooled the people. **But you can only carry on that game once.** The reaction came at the next campaign. After they came into power they knew very well they could not carry out that policy and the first thing they did was to increase taxation by the famous Tax Act of 1920; and they incorporated, into that, that wonderful Poll Tax which seems to be so popular with the Opposition. I wonder just how popular that was! When that Poll Tax came down there was an indignation meeting in Charlottetown, and all over the country as well; in fact, wherever these men went to speak, whether at an agricultural meeting or a meeting of any other kind, it resolved itself into an indignation meeting.

What They Did in Charlottetown

At that meeting in Charlottetown, in order to save their lives, the representatives of the City had to promise that they would go back into the House and make arrangements whereby that Poll Tax would not apply to Charlottetown. These men were not able to carry their point. The Government insisted in putting it through, making it operative on the incorporated towns as well, and that is one of the reasons that at the last election those two gentlemen were turned down.

If that Poll Tax was so popular, **why are the books burdened with arrears today?** I may say right here that never until the present time did we know where we stood, completely, with reference to our arrears of taxation. During the four years of the Bell regime, I think I would be safe in saying that more mistakes went out from that Tax Office to the people of the Province **than in any eight years before.** When we came into power and took charge, it would simply amaze you, Mr. Speaker, to see the careless, haphazard way in which these accounts were kept; and we have since had to be very careful in going over them to rectify these mistakes. **Men who had died three years ago were sent out circulars!** (Laughter.

During the past season I put the clerks to work in that office, and we have tabulated the arrears for 1920, 1921, 1922 and 1923, so that when a notice goes out we will be able also to send the bill of arrears to each individual.

They tell us that when they came in they found the teachers on strike. That is not quite in accordance with the facts. The teachers were all right during the Arsenault administration. They were promised an increase and they were watching the steps that were taken to secure it; but when the Bell Government went through the land preaching against that increase, and when after they had gained power the teachers in delegation after delegation waited on them without success until their patience had worn out, and after the professors of Prince of Wales College, time after time, waited on the Government and received nothing but plausible promises—**then it was, and not until then, that a strike occurred;** and the teachers simply rebelled.

I am credibly informed that when the teachers of the College,—our own Island boys—threatened to strike, Mr. Bell made enquiries from other Provinces for a staff to take their place and he was informed that for the salaries he was offering he could not get half a staff. And then he had to get down on his knees and make terms. (Applause.) **I am proud to say, as a member of the present Government, that since we came in we have received the heartiest co-operation, not only from the worthy Principal of that College but from every one of the staff.** (Applause.)

Conservative Sailing Orders.

We might contrast that campaign of 1919 with the campaign of 1923, and the Manifesto that Premier Stewart put out to the people during the latter event. I think I can repeat almost every word of it. It was an honest, straight-forward, clean-cut platform. And then he clinched the whole thing when he brought the Conservative candidates together in Charlottetown a few days before the campaign opened and made us this statement: **Here is your platform. If any of you gentlemen go to the people and make them any promises, or tell them anything other than what is contained in this platform, you do so on your own responsibility."** That was our sailing orders, and that is the only safe way for any leader to conduct a campaign before the intelligent electorate of Prince Edward Island. And I may say that if my hon. friends will have a little patience, we will show them that **every promise we made in that platform will be carried out to the very best of our ability.**

The Leader of the Opposition—and I am sorry he is not in his place—spoke yesterday about some dismissals made in reference to returned soldiers, and among others, of a janitor at the Technical School, where he said a returned soldier had been dismissed and another man put in his place. I refer to this particular statement of his because I happen to know the details. **And there is not one particle of truth in that statement. The Janitor at the Technical School was never dismissed; he held on there until the School was closed, and he was not a returned soldier at that.**

If there is any party that never should mention dismissal of officials it is the party represented by my hon. friends on the opposite side of the House. It is true that when Governments change, when a Liberal Government comes into power, or vice versa, after an election, dismissals are sometimes made. That has always been the case. But I want to tell my hon. friends this: **we have never dismissed our own friends,** and that is more than they can say. What happened after 1923? They had through the length and breadth of the Island a number of contractors working on the roads, men who did not hold their position by virtue of appointment but through tenders submitted to the Government, and their $500 bonds were in the Public Works office. Notwithstanding that, two days after the election, they commenced cutting all these men off by stopping the work. I remember a contractor in my own section who spent a considerable amount of money buying equipment for the carrying on of the road work. He had arranged his time so as to spend the summer on the roads. The election was on Wednesday, and on Friday the engineer came out and told him, "You must quit tonight." The contractor said, "It is impossible to quit tonight. There are excavations made across the road for culverts; the roads are ploughed and left ready for the road machine. Give us at least tomorrow, and we will do our best to fix up some of these places." **"You quit tonight; if you work tomorrow you pay for it yourself."** That was the order that went out to these workers —not only to this contractor but to hundreds of their own ranks who were working on the roads, and incidentally everybody in the Province shared in the punishment that was vested upon these people by the hon. gentlemen of the Liberal party, who proved as short-sighted in politics as they were in some other things. But let them **remember—four years after all is a short period, and that action will not be forgotten when the next election comes around!**

Roads and Highways.

A word or two now about the roads. It is not in my line of business, yet after all it is a public question. When we came in on the 5th of September after these contracts had been tied up and after the Bell Government had held on to office from the preceding July, we came comparatively late in the season, when there was no possibility of doing any work in connection with the roads. We found that the appropriation for that year had all been spent and none of the contracts were worked over a 50 per cent. basis. That was the proposition that my hon. friend the Minister of Public Works had to face when he took charge; and I think it is something less than fair for the Leader of the Opposition not to give Hon. Mr. McDonald credit for the wonderful way in which he has brought order out of chaos and has carried on the road work. The Leader of the Opposition says we carried on the same road policy as our predecessors. In a great many cases we could not help it. The contracts were laid out and we had to finish them. But there is one marked difference, and that is that **our contracts have cost from $800 to $1500 a mile; while their have cost from $1500 to $3000 per mile.** (Applause.)

My hon. friend sometimes gets into a light vein. He told us a very amusing story about that wonderful Western Road that had been built by the Liberal party. Nobody said it was not a good road. Nobody ever found any fault with it. But he tells us that it was all right until the Conservatives came into power; and then that fine road went all to pieces; that it became so rough and rutty that he broke the springs of his car driving over it! **It takes a good driver to hit every hole in the road.** He must be a wonderful driver. Then he told us that almost over night alder bushes began to grow up on that road, and **I have no doubt, if we have good growing weather during this present year, that when we come back to the House next session—I wouldn't be at all surprised to hear him telling us that there were bears climbing up those bushes.** (Laughter.)

But when my hon. friend compares the public roads of the Province to a ploughed field, that is going beyond a joke. It is going further than any man should ever go who expects some day to lead the destinies of this Province. The people themselves will read his statement and they will say, "Why, that is not true at all." It is just in keeping with other of his statements along financial lines. We never complained of the roads being that bad under the Liberals; they never were that bad, and they certainly are not that bad now. I am glad my hon. friend is a temperance man, or I would be inclined to be suspicious. (Laughter.)

I remember hearing a little story about two niggers in the Southern States. Their pay day came on the same date and they went to town to celebrate. There was plenty of liquor then and the doctors didn't charge for prescriptions. At night they were feeling pretty good. They had an old Ford car and they climbed in it, started for home. They were driving about the same way as the Leader of the Opposition must have driven—hitting every hole, and finally they left the road altogether and got into a ploughed field. One fellow was in the front and the other in the back. At last, after proceeding some distance in this fashion, Rastus was thrown from the rear into the front seat. "Sam," said Rastus, "I think you had better be a little careful how you am driving." "Driving, Rastus?" said Sam, "I thought you were driving!" (Laughter and applause.)

Agricultural Dept. Activities.

A few words now about my own Department. I had some compliments paid me yesterday. Some of them may have been left-handed compliments, yet I take them all in good part. The hon. gentlemen say that in my office I am always very courteous and very kind. Well, it is our duty so to be, not only in the Department of Agriculture but also in the Tax Office. Men come in with difficulties; explanations are wanted and the head of the Department should always see to it that these people, when they come in, receive every courtesy and every kindness. That is my duty; and I want to say right here, **that I would not keep an official in my employ who would give anything less than kind attention and courtesy to everybody.**

But my hon. friend from Summerside (Mr. McArthur) said that he didn't know at first whether the Department of Agriculture was functioning or not; that I was there more as the Ornament of the Department. Well, I may be pretty but I am not polite, and I want to tell my hon. friend in reply that it **will be a long time before either he or his colleague (Mr. Saunders) will be chosen as ornaments to any department.** (Laughter and applause.)

MR. McARTHUR: We are good looking enough!

MR. SAUNDERS: I think my hon. friend would be a nice ornament up there (pointing to the wall of the Chamber.)

HON. MR. MYERS: My hon. friend (Mr. Saunders) mentioned the purchase of an incubator the other day; he said somebody told him about the facts. That is a poor excuse to come before the House with. But somebody is going to tell him something right now; and that is, that before he mentions a matter of this kind, let him see to it that he gets accurate and reliable information. I may inform him that while negotiations were pending for the purchase of that machine by the Poultry Association, not only the consent but the aid of the Department had to be secured. Not only that, but they asked us if we would guarantee their losses up to $300 in the first year's operation. I was anxious to see it put into operation, and I agreed to do so. Even that did not settle the matter. Before the purchase could be made the manager of the Egg and Poultry Association had to submit the proposition to the directors of the Association at the meeting during Farmers' Week and a vote was taken, and on account of the fact that this incubator had at one time been the property of Canadian Farm Products, the proposition was not well received. Canadian Farm Products at that time did not taste very good in the mouths of these people. If it had not been for the assurance the secretary of my Department, Mr. Boulter, and myself, gave that meeting, that we were behind it and would guarantee the project against loss, they would not have been able to carry it forward, and they only carried it by a narrow margin at that. I read a letter in the hearing of the House the other day. The Leader of the Opposition was not in his seat. I do not know that it would make very much difference if he had been, for some people require to read a letter several times before they can take it in. However, I will read it again for his benefit.

"Dear Sir:

"I beg to advise you that the hatching season is now over and that all things considered we had a satisfactory season. We handled approximately 40,000 eggs and hatched out between 18,000 and 19,000 chicks. We are enclosing herewith a financial statement showing the expenses and receipts up to June 30th. You will note that after allowing for all expenses there is a credit balance of $136.98.

"On behalf of this Association and the members of the egg circles I wish to thank you for your helpful interest and the very valuable assistance rendered by your Department in getting the hatchery under way.

"Yours faithfully,
"A. R. JONES.
"Asst. Mgr."

Now that is not "on behalf of somebody who told me something." That is on behalf of the Egg and Poultry Association. Is that satisfactory to my hon. friend. (Applause.)

Other things were on a par with that criticism of his. He referred to the clover huller which has been put into operation successfully by my Department. The reason he at last called it a "clover huller" was because he was corrected by the member from Summerside. He started by calling it a "culler". That shows what my hon. friend knows about Agriculture. Perhaps he was thinking about those potatoes of his that he was "culling" last fall.

MR. SAUNDERS: What is the difference between a "huller" and a "culler?"

HON. MR. MYERS: In this case there isn't any difference, because there isn't any such thing as a clover "culler." I may inform him that the machine he refers to was bought by my predecessor in office. It was used to a small extent the first year, and it has been lying in somebody's barn in O'Leary ever since. It was put to work for the first time, since then, last year, and is now doing good service.

That Lime Crusher.

There was something else my hon. friend did not mention — a machine that is not in operation. It is a lime crusher. I wonder if he knows where Miminegash is? Would he take it amiss if I suggested that he journey up there and see it some time? I have my grave doubts whether the Leader of the Opposition ever saw it. I know I went up there and expected to find an available supply of lime rock to crush. I saw nothing but this lime crusher on the bank, and somebody told me that under the tide was where the lime rock is that three feet of sand is piled over the ledge, and it is only an occasional time when they can get any rock at all. It is red Island limestone—with a certain percentage of lime; not too bad. But the idea—the stupidity, of establishing a crushing plant there. How are you going to keep a staff of men to watch that, to take advantage of the short periods between tides when the rock is available?

The matter was taken up by my Department. I told the people that I would not keep men and teams there to watch for an occasional chance for getting a little lime rock; but if the farmers went there themselves, watched their chance and brought up their own pile of rock, then the Department would crush it at cost. Was not that a fair bargain?

The proposal I put up to these men was this: "Some of you men take over this plant. It cost the country something over $2,550, and where it is placed now it is eleven miles from any railway; take it over and establish it near the railway at some central point and go to work in a businesslike way and ascertain what the lime would cost landed there. Then we will know what we are at." But crushing lime for our people in this Province would be at the best a questionable venture.

In reply to the criticism of the member for Summerside that the Department of Agriculture was not functioning, I might inform him that I had a conference with the Ministers of Agriculture for Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and we submitted a proposition to the railway authorities at Moncton and **secured a reduction in freight rates for the Maritime Provinces of 70 cents a ton on crushed lime. Today we can land it at $4.50 a ton at Borden—cheaper than it was ever landed in this Province before with corresponding rates at other stations.** (Applause.)

The Falconwood Herd.

With reference to the pure bred herd of cattle at Falconwood, to which the Leader of the Opposition referred when praising the former Commissioner of Agriculture under the late Government, I have this to say. We have a number of breeders of pure bred cattle in the Province, and we have some mighty good ones. One man was able to secure $1100 for a cow within the past three or four months. These men have devoted a lifetime to their work. They are referred to as professional breeders. That is just what they are, and I am proud of the fact that we have men who are spending their time and money in building up pure bred herds. For you cannot secure such a herd — cannot buy it; you must **build it up.** It must be done by the process of elimination. These men throughout the Province have been doing that. They are taxpayers of the Province, and it is just a questionable point whether the Government is justified in taking taxes from these men and turning around and investing the money in a pure bred herd and putting that herd up in competition with their own cattle. That is a question which I, for one, have not yet decided. If my hon. friend would enquire from the Medical Superintendent he would find that before that pure bred herd was established at Falconwood the conditions, so far as the supply of milk for the institution is concerned, were just as satisfactory.

MR. SAUNDERS: Why was that?

HON. MR. MYERS: Largely on account of the cost. It is a mighty expensive proposition to keep up a herd of that kind. During the past season we have increased our milk supply over the previous season by $284.32 worth of milk. The last season it was 231,671 lbs., as against 216,654. **Don't worry, my hon. friend, things are not going back. The farm management and the management of livestock at Falconwod today is being continued just as well as ever it was.** (Applause.)

My hon. friend also takes a fling at Exhibitions and questions the value of these central exhibitions. I take issue with him on that point. I have often heard a statement that central exhibitions of this kind benefit only the professional breeder. The way I look upon these exhibitions is this: Very much the

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