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E. R. Brown
General Agent
Charlottetown

THE DAILY EXAMINER.

AUGUST 16, 1897.

CANADA AND THE BRITISH MARKET

As far as the present Government of Canada are following the footsteps of their predecessors, they are doing well—even though they are going directly contrary to their pre-election declarations. This is true in respect to the practical retention of the National Policy as a whole; and it is true particularly in respect to the development of agriculture. Mr. Fisher has had the wit to maintain and carry out the policy of the Liberal-Conservative Ministers of Agriculture even though it is antagonistic to the principles of Free trade. Under his directions the Department of Agriculture is promoting the interests of our farmers as the Ministers who went before him did; and the Government is gaining credit for so doing, both in Canada and in Great Britain. Thus the London Daily Chronicle refers to the present visit of Professor Robertson to Great Britain, and says:

"Take the dairying industry as an illustration of what Professor Robertson justly calls the wonderful development under the new methods. To-day Canada is our biggest source of supply of imported cheese, far outdistancing the United States. In 1889, before the new methods were applied, she sold cheese to British consumers to the value of \$8,750,000; by 1894 the increase was nearly fifty per cent., and 1896 the total was nearly \$15,750,000. In the same period the butter exports to Great Britain have increased one and a third million dollars, making a total increase of \$8,250,000 in British dairy purchases in Canada since the initiation of the policy of which Professor Robertson is the exponent.

This is a notable achievement. It is only an illustration of progress all along the line of agriculture, and Professor Robertson's past record gives importance to his belief that this is only a beginning, and that much greater things are yet to come. It is, then, worth the while of all who are interested in the British farmer and the great question of our food supply, to learn how it has been done.

"The most significant feature of this expansion is the part which the State plays in it—at least, in its initiation. The British farmer gets little direct help from his Government. The Canadian farmer has his Governments—federal and provincial—always at his side. And Professor Robertson justifies this State first-help on broad economic principles: Seven-tenths of the Canadian population are agriculturists. Agriculture is, therefore, the national industry, and must remain so. But being spread over so vast a portion of the American continent, from Atlantic to Pacific it, is so isolated in parts, placed amid so great a variety of climate, soil, facilities for transportation, market requirements and market advantages, as to need Government stimulus. In Canada this Government aid follows three distinct lines of action—

(1) Scientific research and experiment by processes far too extensive and expensive for the individual farmer.

(2) The application to everyday farming of the facts and principles so established by research and experiment.

(3) The securing of the best transport facilities, so as to minimize cost of transit and enable the farmer to market his produce in the best possible condition.

"In each section of Canada, Government experimental farms have been established as centres of education and object-lessons to the surrounding farmers. Here tests are made under the best scientific conditions, and the results applied for the betterment of the methods of the average farmer. Thus at one of these Government farms we find 20,000 distinct samples of milk tested to establish one fact—namely, that when a cow has reached her maximum percentage of solids in the milk she produces, an increase of richness in the ration she is fed on does not yield an increase in the richness of her milk, but only an increase in the total quantity of milk she produces. Another illustration is the time and care expended on the production of the greatest possible amount of suitable cattle food from a given area of land and with the least possible expense for labor in cultivation. The result is a compound, now known as "Robertson mixture," of Indian corn, horse beans to supply the albuminoids and sunflower seeds for the fat. An experiment on a forty-acre lot shows that with the choice of fodders which such tests suggest, the number of cattle kept by the average farmer can be easily doubled without sacrifice of the revenue derived from any other source.

"Another most successful means of educating the farmer has been the institution of dairy stations as centres of organ-

ized work of dairy instruction. Here the great object has been to reach each farmer individually, and get him to see with his own eyes how much more money he can make if he will carry on his business on sound co-operative principles. "Cut down your cost of production, and don't always be dreaming of raising the market price by any other means than by improving the quality of your produce." This is the economic principle which Professor Robertson is always seeking to drive home. Through these dairy stations in every corner of Canada he and his staff of assistants are introducing co-operative methods of dairying where these were unknown; they are establishing winter butter making in factories; and they are levelling up the general quality of the dairy products of all the provinces.

"Take Prince Edward Island—the garden of Canada"—as an illustration of what has been done. No section of Canada has finer pastures and greater natural advantages for dairying. Yet the industry was stagnant and in bad favor among the farmers. The Dairy Commissioner went boldly in and took complete charge of the work of cheese-making and butter-making in the factories as they were erected by the people. In 1892 there was one factory. In 1893 there were eleven, to-day there are nearly forty; and no province has a higher proportion of cheese of the best quality. Note, too, that, having initiated these new methods, the Treasury of the Dominion has been recompensed for all it has spent, and as the industry is well set upon its feet, it is left to the farmers themselves and the enterprise of business men.

"By such methods as these Canadian cheese has been placed in the very front rank among imported cheese in British markets. And by means of winter butter making, the same will, Professor Robertson believes, be done for butter. A year or two ago English buyers hardly knew what fresh made Canadian creamery butter was like. The Canadian butter sold here was generally stale when it reached the consumer, and so the export butter trade of Canada dwindled away almost to nothing. The British imports of 1895 were only 536,797 dols.; those of 1896 were 1,653,421 dols., and it half Professor Robertson's expectations are fulfilled, Canada will in a year or two command an immensely larger share of England's butter bill, which last year exceeded 74,500,000 dols. This butter bill shows a gain of over 9,000,000 dols. in two years. The increase in British needs will, Professor Robertson believes, continue, and aided by the growing British preference for things Canadian, Canada means to capture this annual increase.

"The cold storage system, which is this season in full operation, must prove a great help to this end. Arrangements have been made by direction of the Canadian Minister of Agriculture for mechanical refrigeration upon seventeen steamships plying between Canada and Great Britain to provide safe and reasonably cheap carriage for cheese and butter; fruits, such as grapes, peaches, pears; poultry and dressed meat, and all perishable food products. A weekly cold storage system is provided to London, Avonmouth for Bristol and Liverpool, and there is a fortnightly system to Glasgow. To fit up each ship cost £2,000. Of this the Dominion Government pays one half and the steamship company the other half. Each creamery, which the farmers build themselves on the co-operative and self-supporting lines laid down by the Government, has its cold storage warehouse established under the stimulus of a Government bonus of 100 dollars; refrigerator cars, fully iced, run regularly on the main lines of railway to the various Atlantic ports without extra charge to the farmer, and shipping points such as Montreal have cold storage buildings. Thus there is one continuous line of cold storage from the producer, even though he be in the far prairie country of the West, to the English producer, and it is as cheap as it is effective. Thus the Canadian farmer not only avoids direct loss from spoiled produce, but he is enabled to choose his own time for selling, and we may be sure he will take care to get the best price.

"These are some of the means by which Canada is pursuing her policy of commercial alliance with the Mother Land. She has laid her plans with great care and foresight, and it will be surprising if success does not reward her efforts. What might not be the future of British agriculture if the same spirit of co-operation and prudent foresight animated our farmers and governing bodies?"

It ought to be borne in mind—and the English papers ought to know—that the plans laid "with great care and foresight"

are those of the Liberal Conservatives; and that credit for the success attending those plans belongs largely to the Liberal Conservative Party.

We note that Professor Robertson in the course of an address delivered at Manchester, a few days ago, referred to what he described as a "new era in trade," and he said that "the cold storage policy of the Government was the beginning of a new era so far as the quality of Canadian butter eggs, and fruit, as delivered in the English market, was concerned. These things could now be carried without the least injury; and, as Canada had a fertile soil, a thoroughly intelligent and industrious people, of the most cleanly habits, as well as a pure and healthy atmosphere, the quality of the products was of the very highest order. Products from Northern climates had better keeping qualities, a richer flavor and a higher percentage of nourishing properties than those grown further to the South. The route from Canada to Great Britain was also a cool one. If the British looked to their own interests only, they would give a decided preference to Canadian products, and thus increase the purchasing power of Canadians for the acquisition and importation of manufactured articles from English, Irish and Scottish cities." These remarks are very much to the point and are calculated to have a good effect in the Mother Country. We have no doubt that the farmers of Prince Edward Island, at least, will constantly labor to maintain the high character given Canadians by Professor Robertson. But, it is perhaps needless to remark, they are laboring under a disadvantage as compared with Canadian farmers in the West,—they are still without direct steam communication or cold storage.

"HONOR TO WHOM HONOR."

We bow to the superior learning of the Guardian, as evinced this morning, and heartily agree with our highly esteemed contemporary "that the words are full of meaning just as (Saint) Paul wrote them." But, as quoted by the Patriot, they might, mean honor to whom honor is given honor to whom honor is denied—or anything else. In view of the fact that this Province has so far received little or nothing as a result of Liberal administration under the direction of Sir Louis Davies, the words, as quoted, must mean something other than honor to whom honor "is due."

When Sir Louis shall have secured the construction of the Southern Railway and the Hillsborough bridge, direct communication with Great Britain, cold storage, and greatly improved means of winter communication with the mainland, he will be entitled to all the honor that the grateful people of his native Province can bestow. But at this juncture "honors are easy"—or rather, if there be any honor it belongs to the people who placed Sir Louis in a position to obtain the honor of a seat in the Cabinet as well as the honor of knighthood, and gave him an opportunity to render his country distinguished service.

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LABOR DAY, September 6.

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- 1 mile novice
 - 1/4 mile C. W. A. Maritime Championship
 - 1 mile (boys under 16)
 - 1 mile (2 50 class)
 - 1 mile (C. W. A. Maritime Championship)
 - 1/4 mile race
 - 3/4 mile (lap race)
 - 2 mile (handicap)
 - 5 mile C. W. A. Maritime Championship
 - 1 mile Tandem
 - 220 yards flat race
 - 1/2 mile flat race
 - 1/2 mile flat race
 - High jump
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President.
- H. D. JOHNSON, M D**
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Aug. 6 dy wy

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25 YEARS RECORD TO JANUARY, 1897.

Paid in Cash to Policy Holders and Annuitants.

For Death Claims.....	\$2,145,704.00
For Matured Endowments.....	458,454.00
For Annuities.....	58,007.21
For Cash Dividends.....	945,520.25
For Cash Values (of Policies surrendered).....	431,799.10

Total Cash Payments.....	\$4,039,592.56
Cash Surplus.....	371,930.84
Held to pay Death Claims and Dividends outstanding.....	1,132,531.61
Reserve on Policies and Annuities.....	5,170,371.00
Total Cash paid and held on Policy Holders' Account.....	\$9,704,626.01

25 YEARS RECORD TO JANUARY 1st, 1897.

Insurance in Force.....	\$27,560,423.0
New Insurance, (written and taken up) 1896.....	3,064,995.00
Income, 1896.....	1,132,617.60
Assets.....	5,779,210.96
Cash Surplus above all Liabilities.....	371,930.85
Total Surplus Security for Policy Holders, including Capital Stock.....	\$1,371,930.84

E. H. BEER,
Local Agent, Charlottetown
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