

ings have had an attendance of several hundred dairymen each year. Prominent dairy authorities from the United States Department of Agriculture and elsewhere have been present at the different meetings and gave interesting and valuable advice to the dairymen present.

The association has been very successful and much credit is due to it for the valuable work already accomplished. Through the efforts of its committee on dairy legislation, dairy laws have been enacted which provide for "the fostering and promoting of the dairy industry of the state." The state board of agriculture has been created, also the state dairy commission, and two dairy inspectors have been appointed by the commission. Their duty is to inspect all creameries, public dairies, ice cream and cheese factories, and prescribe such reasonable rules and regulations for their operation as they may deem necessary for the promotion and maintenance of public health and safety, also give assistance in building up and developing the dairy and creamery interests of the state. The state dairy commission is also charged with the licensing of creameries, and examining and granting of permits to cream testers; also the inspection of any and all dairy products offered for sale in the state of Oklahoma, which may be suspected as adulterated, impure or unwholesome.

This dairy legislation and the work of the dairy inspectors has done much to promote and develop the dairy industry of the state. The fourth annual convention of the association will be held at Enid, Oklahoma, November 15 and 16. Information regarding the meeting and a complete program can be obtained by addressing the secretary of the association, Prof. Roy C. Potts, at Stillwater, Oklahoma.

BRITISH ATTACKS ON AMERICAN MEATS.

Persistent attacks on American meats and the American meat industry by British public officials and politicians may have been somewhat of a mystery to some of our people, who possibly have attributed them to international jealousy more than anything else. But it appears that the motive, in one case at least, has been of a different character.

The fight against disease in livestock is going on in Great Britain, as it is in the United States, and in the van of the contest is the British meat trade, which has suffered from time immemorial for the sins of stockraisers by being compelled to bear the burden of all condemnations of diseased meat. The British trade is now endeavoring to fix the responsibility where it belongs, with the unsanitary livestock man, and to compel him either to clean up his farm and feed lot or to pay the cost of animals condemned for disease after he has sold them to the butcher at full meat price.

British agrarian interests resent this attempt to fix the blame where it belongs, and their representatives in public office have not only tried to block such efforts, but have also attempted to distract public attention from the issue by slandering American meat and diverting the minds of consumers in that way. It has taken the London *Meat Trades Journal*, the conservative organ of the British meat industry, to reply to the latest attacks on American meat, and to show up these political demagogues for what they are. In reference to the latest case the *Meat Trades Journal* tells the whole story when it says:

"Taking advantage of the Parliamentary recess, and the comparative idleness thereby given, Mr. Rowland

Hunt, M. P., has been circularizing the daily press on the subject of "Diseased American Meat." His letter has certainly achieved a publicity which neither the subject nor its treatment could possibly have obtained at any other season.

"The letter itself is merely a re-hash of several questions addressed by the Honorable Member to the president of the Local Government Board, all framed to convey the suggestion that enormous quantities of diseased meat and the products thereof were daily landed on our shores from the United States. Apparently Mr. Hunt is one of those peculiar individuals who cannot take 'No' for an answer, and who with a perverseness bordering on morbidity insists upon repeating their venom-inspired queries.

"Consignments of all kinds of American meats—live and dead—are rapidly becoming a negligible quantity, partly because of the excessively severe inspection they are subjected to, but mainly because there is no longer a surplus available for export. And yet in the face of that Mr. Hunt quotes alarming figures relating to animals inspected in 1907 and 1908 in the States, which, under no circumstances, could possibly have found their way to this country. He also quotes one of the official regulations of the American government, which distinctly provides for the condemnation or diseased meat, but quotes it in a way to prove that it really makes it easier to use diseased animals."

"In his own artless way the Hon. gentleman calmly asserts that 'American pork is very subject to a disease called trichinosis.' He omits, of course, to state that the whole porcine race the world over is 'very subject' to this disease, and (probably from bashfulness refrains from stating that specimens of the flesh of from 75 to 90 per cent of the hogs handled by the big packinghouses are microscopic examined before they are converted into salable food.

"Probably the most daring, as it is certainly the most fallacious, of all Mr. Hunt's assertions is that wherein he refers to the increasing death rate from cancer, boldly associating this with the consumption of American meat since 1881. Fearing probably that he might be open to ridicule and exposure for making such a frightfully inaccurate statement, he qualifies it by saying that there 'appears to be a grave possibility' that his deduction was probably well founded. From our point of view we have not the slightest doubt he is absolutely in error. However, we understand Mr. Hunt is likely to be better informed, and from a more reliable source than we can draw upon.

"Meantime, it may be asked why Mr. Hunt should be thus enthusiastically engaged in denouncing foreign meat? There is no difficulty in replying thereto. It is simply a variation of the ancient and questionable device of drawing a herring across the trail. Mr. Rowland Hunt, knowing that an enormous percentage of the livestock of Great Britain is rotten with tuberculosis, anthrax, or swine fever, thinks to divert public attention from the fact by squirting broadcast his muddy epistles against the livestock of other countries.

"As the mouthpiece of the Agricultural Chambers he has taken up this extraordinary attitude at the bidding of a certain section who absolutely decline to give a warranty as to the soundness of any animal offered for sale, a section who in effect say 'it is no business of ours whether beasts are diseased or not; let the butcher take the responsibility.' And yet here we have this self-same section professing the deepest

interest and concern in the health of the public and hysterically howling for protection.

"Apparently Mr. Hunt and his bucolic colleagues would have the British public believe that death and disease went hand in hand with the consumption of foreign meat, and that health, happiness and longevity were linked inseparably with native produce. Our wholesale markets are filled with foreign meats, every ounce of which is not only officially inspected before exportation, but is also thoroughly inspected before it reaches the retailer. It may interest Mr. Hunt to know that out of thirty quotations given by the *Times* in their report of the Central Market, twenty refer to 'foreign' meat. Further, that while English sides of beef (in this report are quoted to average 4s. 3d. per stone, Liverpool and Deptford sides average 4s. 6d. Dutch veal and English veal are quoted exactly the same price, and Dutch pork 4s. 2d. to 4s. 6d. against the English average of 4s. 3d. to 4s. 6d.

"Our meat traders have nothing to fear from foreign meat. What they really desire is a guarantee from English stock breeders that all animals purchased are fit for human food. Given that assurance, and, other things being equal, nothing would please British butchers better than to handle native stock. But Mr. Rowland Hunt (and the narrow-minded section he represents) prefers screaming loudly about the mote in his neighbor's eye, rather than deal with the beam in his own. To our agricultural friends we cordially commend a study of the text: 'Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy herds, for riches are not forever.'"

MEAT SHORTAGE IN AUSTRIA.

A dispatch from Vienna, under date of August 24, says: "The Council of Ministers has during the last few days been considering the question of the rise in the price of cattle and meat, and has now determined, with a view to strengthening the supply on the home market, to take speedy measures to bring about an importation of meat from Roumania, while conforming with commercial conventions; further, to enter into negotiations with the Hungarian Government with a view to the admission of meat from Servia, even before the ratification of the commercial convention; further, to consent in special cases to the importation of live bullocks and hogs of unquestionable origin from Italy, Holland and France, and to submit the question of the importation of Argentine meat once more to an immediate test.

"Finally, the Cabinet contemplates alterations in railway rates, so as to facilitate the transport of cattle and meat in the country itself. In regard to the prohibition of the exportation of cattle urged by several municipalities, the Council of Ministers has come to the conclusion that such measures might be effectively called in question from a legal point of view, particularly in respect of the provisions of commercial treaties, and might give rise to some political difficulty in consideration of the attitude foreign countries would probably take up on the matter. The Cabinet has consequently resolved to dismiss the idea of prohibiting cattle export from the sphere of its deliberations."

There is a possibility that the Austrian Government may be compelled to make concessions by which American meats and meat products will be admitted to that country. Recently cabled reports from Vienna state that American Ambassador Kerens and American Consul General Denby have gone to Trieste in company with the government commission delegated to

examine sample consignments of meats from the United States and the Argentine Republic.

The general opinion is that, in spite of the agrarian opposition, the government will be compelled to accede to the popular demand for the admission of meat from North and South America. Ambassador Kerens recently conferred with the Foreign Office, urging the admission of meat from the United States, and he has received assurances that the prospects are now very favorable. The price of meat here has risen enormously of late.

MEAT TROUBLES GERMAN OFFICIALS.

The German government is in a pickle over the meat agitation and the danger of becoming involved in difficulties with the American government if partiality is shown to other countries and not to the United States in admitting meat products to relieve the existing famine. Reports from Berlin say the movement in Germany for throwing open the frontiers to import cattle and meats with a view to lowering the existing famine price of meat is of immense importance to America.

So far the government has resisted the cry. The minister of agriculture denies that a scarcity exists and prints statistics showing that the consumption of meat per head is greater than it was last year. He holds that the scarcity is owing to the neglect of production in Germany itself. At the same time he promises to consider measures for its alleviation should the scarcity continue.

Here lies the danger. If the frontiers are opened without admitting American meat it will lead to trouble with the United States. The latter would have reason to complain of discrimination; yet it is the firm policy of the German Government to exclude American meat on veterinary and hygienic grounds.

MUST HAVE EGG PERMITS.

The determined efforts of the food inspection department of the Board of Health of New York to stop the sale of doubtful eggs for food purposes have caused some stir among the wholesale merchants of the Wallabout district. The Board of Health has just adopted new regulations, by the terms of which egg dealers are required to take out permits for selling eggs broken out of the shell, "spot," dried or frozen eggs. Some of the dealers have believed that they were required to take out a license to sell fresh eggs and protested. B. C. Fuller, head of the Food Inspection Department of the Board of Health, said that as soon as the purpose of the new regulations is understood, reputable wholesale dealers will readily submit to them.

NORWAY NOT AFRAID OF OUR MEAT.

Reports from Washington are that the State Department has received word that Norway will remove the ban on boneless meats shipped from the United States to that country. Norway, according to the State Department, is convinced that the meat shipped into that country from the United States is bona fide beef, and that horse meat comes from elsewhere. This lays the latest horse-meat scare.

RUSSIAN MEAT REGULATIONS.

Regulations of the Russian empire exclude all substances except kitchen salt and saltpeter for use in the preservation of meat or meat food products imported to that country.