

herds are now and have been for many years past free from those diseases against which the British embargo has been imposed; that this fact has been repeatedly admitted by the Imperial authorities; and that under these circumstances the continued prohibition of Canadian cattle, on the pretext of danger of the spread of diseases among the British herds, is an unjust imputation on the condition of Canadian cattle. The address therefore respectfully suggested that the Imperial act should be repealed. The matter was referred to the Board of Agriculture, and Mr. Alfred Lyttleton, the Colonial Secretary, informed the Governor General (August 17) that His Majesty's Government had given the fullest consideration to the representations made on the subject, but felt themselves unable to propose to Parliament any amendment of the existing law. The attitude of the Board of Agriculture is that the statute which requires all imported cattle to be slaughtered at the port of landing is no obstacle to the development and maintenance of a large and valuable trade, as shown by the increase in imports from Argentina, the United States and Canada. The law, it is further maintained, does not cast discredit upon Canadian cattle, for it holds good in the case of every other British colony and of all foreign countries, being in fact a sanitary law of universal application, and of great importance to British stock owners as a safeguard against the introduction of disease. The sudden outbreak of disease amongst Argentina cattle in 1900 and of United States cattle in 1902 are given as instances of possible danger in spite of the maintenance of an efficient veterinary organization. "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," the Board's memorandum states, "make it more than ever necessary that every possible precaution should be taken against the introduction of disease, consistent with the reasonable requirements of colonial producers and the interests of consumers at home."

The act of the Legislature of the province of Quebec providing for a tax on certain commercial travellers (5 Edward VII., chap. 14) has been the subject of vigorous remonstrance by British business houses and chambers of commerce through the Board of Trade and the Colonial Office. The general sense of British sentiment is expressed by the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom in a memorial to the

The cattle embargo.

Tax on commercial travellers in Quebec.