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A. No, they haven't done anything of the kind; I think they have been lenient to the farmers generally.

Q. You think they have been?

A. Yes.

Q. And the farmers outside have no cause of complaint?

A. No cause whatever.

Q. In your judgment the Government Inspectors have conscientiously endeavoured to carry out the Fruit Marks Act?

A. I do, I think they are trying to do their work thoroughly and systematically.

Q. You have told us that the basis on which you are working is 100 per cent absolutely pure apples for Nos. 1 and 2; why do you grade them 1 and 2 if they are all equally good?

A. According to size, No. 1 is two and a half inches, and No. 2, two and a quarter.

*By Hon. Mr. Burrell:*

Q. You say you have no particular complaint to make concerning the conditions under which you are shipping to the Old Country markets?

A. No, this year there was a little reduction in time by the steamship companies, there is no complaint; for a number of years it took from 10 to 18 days but this year from 9 to 12 days. This year I think they have shortened down the time by fully three days, and the fruit arrived in splendid condition.

*By Mr. Schaffner:*

Q. How many days does it take going to the Old Country?

A. In other years it took from ten to eighteen days, but this year only nine to twelve days.

Q. How long does it take to Winnipeg?

A. Five to seven days last year and ten to fourteen days this year.

Q. Ten days is not unreasonable?

A. I think they should do it in five days.

Mr. SCHAFFNER.—That is about as quickly as you can go in an express.

Mr. FOSTER (Kings, N.S.).—Perhaps Mr. Schaffner did not hear that Mr. Chute said that in 1911 representatives of three different railway companies were soliciting the trade of Nova Scotia, and in that year they delivered their shipments to Winnipeg in five days; but last year the C.P.R., which controls the Dominion and Atlantic Railway, held up Mr. Chute's shipments and said to him: 'If you don't ship over the C.P.R. west of Montreal we will not haul your stuff.'

Mr. SCHAFFNER.—That is rather peculiar. I don't think you can express apples from Nova Scotia to Winnipeg in five days.

Mr. BURRELL.—Nine to ten days is fairly reasonable.

Mr. CHUTE.—The first year they did it in five to seven days.

*Mr. Wilson (Wentworth):*

Q. You pay your best men \$1.50 a day to pick apples?

A. Yes.

Q. And they board themselves out of that?

A. Yes.

Q. And you said you paid 25 cents to pick and pack? You claim you bring your apples to this point where you pack them again. Does that 25 cents include picking them off the tree and packing them ready for shipment?

A. It costs 10 cents to pick apples off the tree and put them in barrels. It probably costs five cents more to haul them from the orchard and 15 cents to roll the apples out of the barrels and sort them up, ready for shipment again. The average is only 25 cents a barrel.