

SUPPLY — FRANCO-CANADIAN RELATIONS—*Con.*

*Foster, Hon. Geo. E.*—*Con.*

function should go no further than the presentation of general information. Commercial agents fountains of reliable information—5758. Have in the new offices as well placed and good offices as in Paris—5759.

*Lemieux, Hon. R. (Rouville)*—5747.

Brings up this question because the minister said he did not intend to replace Mr. Pomilrou at Paris. Subsidy to the Franco-Canadian line—5747. The interest taken in France by Canada. Quotes a review of the French Chamber of Commerce at Montreal, La Société France-Amérique—5748. The Canadian section of the British Chamber of Commerce of Paris. Commercial relations capable of improvement—5749. Possibility of a lumber trade if our manufacturers would yield to French demands. The parcel post convention—5750. Investments of French capital in Canada. Statistics. France comes after Great Britain and the United States—5751. French shareholders in various stocks. The Montreal Stock Exchange taking an interest in French investments. Quotes Mr. Field—5752. If we cannot expect large immigration from France we can reasonably expect to participate in its wealth—5753. If we had a commercial agent there, business would be increased. Hopes the minister will reconsider his decision—5754. And appoint a commercial agent at Paris—5755.

*Paquet, G. (L'Islet)*—5759.

Satisfaction at seeing both sides unite in improving the French-Canadian steam service—5759. Hopes the government will co-operate with them in their endeavours towards securing better relations—5760.

## SUPPLY—GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP OF TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONE LINES.

Attention called to an 'Evening Journal' item—Hon. R. Lemieux—2007.

*Foster, Hon. Geo. E.* (Minister of Trade and Commerce—2007.

Better to put the question to the Postmaster General—2007.

*Lemieux, Hon. R. (Rouville)*—2007.

Asks if it is true as the 'Journal' states that the Postmaster General declared a policy on this matter—2007.

## SUPPLY—GRAIN CONGESTION IN THE WEST.

Motion, in amendment to Supply—

That all the words after 'that' in the main motion be struck out and the following be substituted therefor:

That the House heard with satisfaction from the Minister of Trade and Commerce that as a result of a conference recently held by him and at his request

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Motion, in amendment to Supply—*Con.*

with representatives of the three railway systems operating in western Canada, these railways have lowered their rate, making the rate to Duluth and Minneapolis the same as to Fort William and Port Arthur.

And that as a further result of the conference mentioned, application has been made to the Interstate Commerce Commission of the United States for leave to file grain rates from the Northwest down to Minneapolis and Duluth, and to ease the pressure in the congested districts by taking the grain away by more western routes down towards the south.

The House is informed by the public press that the reduced rates as mentioned have been granted by the Canadian Pacific and Canadian Northern railways on wheat and oats for export only.

As the reduction of rates so announced can only affect the situation to a limited degree, the House would urge upon the government the advisability of securing further consideration of the matter by the railway companies with a view to having the reduced rates apply to wheat and oats for grinding in bond and for consumption in the United States as well as for export;

The House would further urge that such means as may be practicable be taken by the government to have the through rates on barley and flax to Duluth and Minneapolis which became effective on January 23 reduced to the Fort William rate.—Hon. F. Oliver—3975.

*Buchanan, W. A. (Medicine Hat)*—4004.

A most vital question. If the west suffers the rest of Canada must suffer. The government should have dealt at once in the most drastic way with the situation—4004-5. The railroads and crop. The railways have not the motive power or cars available for the crop—4006. They are not prepared to meet any emergency. Condition of back settlers. Storage facilities—4007. Farmers must market the crop as soon as possible to meet their engagements. We want the larger market—4008. Government had the opportunity but neglected to provide relief—4009.

*Clark, M. (Red Deer)*—4023.

The frivolous manner in which Mr. Foster deals with the motion justifies it. Production and disposal—4023. He tried to shift the attack from the government to Providence. Little things please little minds. The tu quoque—4024. We do not raise grain to store it. We raise it to sell. The farmer cannot build a granary in every field—4025. It is the duty of government, who are responsible for dealing with the affairs of the country, to solve the problem—4026. The question of the economic condition of western Canada. While the economic problem remains who can proclaim that reciprocity is dead?—4027. Wheat is rotting on the