

speech is often misunderstood. I do not hesitate to say that no official of the department has a right to go into any part of the country and talk politics, and I will instruct the deputy minister to speak to Mr. Grindley about the matter. I am disposed to think that he may have referred to these duties as being of general assistance to the apple-growing industry, and it is quite likely that when we have the full text of his speech it will be seen that the synoptic report makes it convey a different meaning and that the speech which was actually made may not have been in any sense objectionable. As to the suggestion to change the tariff, I understand the resolutions will be before the House very soon, and that will be the time to discuss them.

Mr. TURRIFF: I quite agree that it would be quite possible that the gentleman was mis-reported, and also quite possible, and I think most likely, that if he did make reference to the tariff, it was without any intention to discuss political matters.

Mr. OLIVER: What is the present annual production of apples in British Columbia?

Mr. HAZEN: The production for the last year was 650,000 boxes, which is equal to 1,000 cars. There are 3 boxes to a barrel.

Mr. OLIVER: I read a report from a British Columbia paper to the effect that 30,000 acres were under orchard in British Columbia, and that 40 per cent of that area was in bearing to a greater or less degree.

Mr. HAZEN: That is about right, I am informed.

Mr. OLIVER: Has the department any knowledge as to when the remaining 60 per cent will come into measurably full bearing?

Mr. HAZEN: They will all be in full bearing in about ten years.

Mr. TURRIFF: Can the department give any information as to the apple-growing industry in British Columbia, the kinds of apples grown, and whether they are making any advancement?

Mr. HAZEN: My information is that they are growing a very superior class of apples in British Columbia.

Mr. CARVELL: That is a very illuminating answer, and I think we should let the item pass.

Towards the encouragement of cold storage warehouses for the better preservation and handling of perishable food products, \$150,000.

Mr. CARVELL: Why is there a reduction in this item?

Mr. HAZEN: That is perhaps because the amount last year was too large. The Cold Storage Act, I understand, covers four years. The first year you pay 30 per cent of the cost of erection, the second year 8 per cent, and then 4 per cent. The Estimate last year was very much over calculated. The amount spent last year was \$83,280.

Mr. TURRIFF: Can the minister tell us whether the calculation this year is more nearly correct than it was last year?

Mr. HAZEN: What I am told is that it cannot be accurately estimated from year to year. Within a month or two, some application may come in asking for aid under the provisions of this Act.

Mr. CARVELL: Can the minister say how many companies have taken advantage of this Act? Some years ago, a company in my own town took advantage of it with some assistance from the Government of New Brunswick, and while the warehouse has not been a great success financially, I think the money has been well expended. I doubt whether there ever was a small amount of money spent in my constituency that produced better results than this grant for a cold storage warehouse.

Mr. HAZEN: I have a list of the warehouses erected since 1907. In Alberta, there are Campbell and Hamilton, Calgary and the Edmonton Cold Storage Company, Edmonton.

Mr. OLIVER: Has the grant to the Edmonton company been paid up, or is there something still coming to them?

Mr. HAZEN: There is \$6,080 still coming to the Edmonton Cold Storage Company. I think it is due to-day, March 3, 1916.

Mr. OLIVER: That will be paid of course.

Mr. HAZEN: Oh, yes. In British Columbia there are the B. Wilson Company, Victoria; the Canadian Fish and Cold Storage Company, Prince Rupert; and the H. & K. Trading Company, Penticton. In Manitoba there is the Brandon Creamery and Supply Company, Brandon. In New Brunswick, there are the New Brunswick Cold Storage Company, St. John; and the Cold Storage Limited, Woodstock. In Nova Scotia there are the Lockport Cold Storage Company,