

SUPPLY—TRADE AND COMMERCE.

West India cables, \$38,933.33, 955.

Foster, Hon. G. E. (Minister of Trade and Commerce)—955.

Explanation of cable service, 955-6.

SUPPLY—TRADE AND COMMERCE.

Mail subsidies and steamship subventions—steam service between Canada and the West Indies or South America or both, \$340,666.66, 956.

Foster, Hon. G. E. (Minister of Trade and Commerce)—956.

Explanation of service, 956. The vessels under the present arrangement are good freight boats in the first place and good passenger boats in the second place. The whole of our present subsidy is paid by Canada, 957. Old service compared with the new, 959. The control of rates extends to the service which are laid down in the contract. This company knows the West Indies better than any other shipping company in the world. I admit that it is a large subsidy but something had to be done, 960. We have beyond all shadow of doubt an opportunity for a very largely increasing trade with the West Indies, 961. Tonnage of vessels given, 962.

Law, E. B. (Yarmouth)—962.

Asks that Yarmouth be made a port of call, 962.

Maclean, A. K. (Halifax)—957.

The question arises whether there is a sufficient improvement in the service to justify the increased expenditure. I do not think that the department has given to this country the service to the West India Islands that was promised by the minister a year ago, 958. I doubt if the improvement is sufficiently marked to justify the disparity in the amounts of the subsidy paid to-day and that paid under the old contract, 960.

SUPPLY—TRADE AND COMMERCE.

Salaries, rent, wages and contingencies under the Canada Grain Act, \$800,000, 1646.

Buchanan, W. A. (Medicine Hat)—1647.

Think minister is familiar with arguments that have been put forward on behalf of Lethbridge. Would be pleased to know whether elevator is to be erected or not, 1647.

Clark, Michael (Red Deer)—1658.

With the introduction of the question of Hudson Bay route, and possible navigation of bay is whole question of what the western men want, 1659. Cannot bring back conditions of two and a quarter years ago, 1660.

SUPPLY—TRADE AND COMMERCE—Con.

Foster, Hon. Geo. E. (Minister of Trade and Commerce)—1646.

Increase of \$400,000 is nearly all due to fact that we have to advance money in operation of government elevator. Government operation of elevator has been of service to whole grain business, 1646. It is not intended to construct any other storage elevators this present year. Try to keep government elevator on a par with other elevators, 1648. Our elevators are thoroughly equipped with driers and cleaners, and have the best apparatus, 1649. Have four elements, where before we had only two, 1651. Whole matter of government elevators, and the operation of them, is in the experimental stage, 1652. Have undertaken to go a little further than a terminal elevator at head of lakes, 1655. Co-operative system will grow in that great West and in all parts of the country, 1656. All these things are advantages which the people will find to be beneficial to them, 1657. Government is in favour of establishing a sample market just as soon as conditions are favourable for its being successfully put into operation, 1662. General verdict on Canadian grain is that there never was Canadian grain of better quality and lower prices as that bought this year, 1663.

Knowles, W. E. (Moosejaw)—1653.

Minister is simply operating this elevator same as any company would operate it and there is no more benefit to people than if any body formed a company and started an elevator, 1653.

McCraney, G. E. (Saskatoon)—1661.

Question of sample products is closely related to this matter, 1661.

Oliver, Hon. Frank (Edmonton)—1650.

Asks minister if there is a possibility of government elevator suffering from philanthropic operation, 1650. Question of handling grain crop of West at head of great lakes is one of our very serious national problems, 1654. It is certain that minister's policy has not succeeded in controlling the situation, 1660. Sets up as the fulfilment of the promise that which is absolutely no fulfilment, 1661.

Schaffner, F. L. (Souris)—1657.

One of the greatest policies any government could propound is transportation of products of great West, 1657. Believe we all have one aim and that is to make the most of our products, 1658.

SUPPLY—TRADE AND COMMERCE.

To provide for the construction, acquisition leasing or expropriation of terminal elevators, \$4,700,000, 1663.