

sized steamers can come here and carry deal from the ports of St. John, and wheat, space for space, at about one half they will carry apples for?

Hon. Mr. Fisher—That is one of those questions of special rates, or transportation problems I do not pretend to know. There are different classes of freight. Deals and wheat are the cheapest freight carried across the ocean. Just as a railroad train has different classes of freight. Apples are the highest—I suppose it is on account of their value and delicacy and difficulty in handling. All freight is classified 1, 2, 3, 4, etc., and the more perishable class, as eggs, apples, delicate fruits, etc., cost more to carry. Wheat which is loaded and unloaded by elevators is one of the cheapest classes of freight, and I am told that vessels will carry it at a lower rate than any other commodity.

W. E. Roscoe—I would like to make sure of the fact with reference to the comparative ocean rates on wheat from St. John and Portland. I would like to know if the rates on wheat, coming from the same place in Canada via the C. P. R. and St. John, to Great Britain, and via the G. T. R. and Portland, are different?

Hon. Mr. Fisher—They were extremely low in St. John. I have not got the figures with me, but I know as a matter of fact, for ten years back the general rates from the West to Europe have been considerably lower through New York and Boston, than they have been through St. John and Halifax.

W. E. Roscoe—I am speaking now through St. John and Portland. I am told they are the same?

Hon. Mr. Fisher—I could not say whether they are the same or not.

John Donaldson said it would be well to give the cold storage plant another season's trial.

Hon. Mr. Borden, (Minister of Militia) on rising, was greeted with applause. He said:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,—If you will permit me, I will continue this very interesting discussion for a very few minutes; and I may say you will be glad to know that it will be for a very few minutes. From what I hear of the different things in regard to transportation rates, and in regard to cold storage, it reminds me very much of what they used to tell me