

## COLD STORAGE FOR APPLES AND OTHER FRUITS

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

COMMITTEE ROOM, No. 34,

WEDNESDAY, March 8, 1911.

The Select Standing Committee on Agriculture and Colonization met at 11 o'clock a.m., the Chairman, Mr. Schell, presiding.

The CHAIRMAN.—You have noticed from the Order Paper that Mr. J. A. Ruddick, Dairy and Cold Storage Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, will address us this morning on 'Cold Storage for Apples and other Fruit; The results of some experiments and trial shipments.' Cold storage is one of the questions that is agitating the mind of the public perhaps more to-day than ever, and we are glad that Mr. Ruddick will have some valuable information to give us in the matter of caring for fruit in cold storage. I believe he has some samples of fruit here and by means of it will be able to convey some idea of the benefits that have resulted from caring for fruit in cold storage. I have very great pleasure in now calling upon Mr. Ruddick to address you.

Mr. J. A. RUDDICK.—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:—The Branch of the Department of Agriculture over which I have charge covers several different lines of work, but I am here this morning, as you understand, to give you some evidence as to what we have been doing in relation to the cold storage of fruit. We have been getting some experience along that line during recent years and in various ways: In the first place we have, through our system of refrigerator car and cargo inspection, and the supervision of the export of fruit in cold storage, a succession of reports from Montreal and ports in Great Britain respecting the condition of fruit arriving under different systems of transportation. We are able to draw some conclusions from these records. We have also been conducting some commercial experiments—I would call them that rather than scientific experiments—in the cold storage of apples and some other fruits, and these I shall bring to your notice later on.

### APPLES FOR INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS.

During the last three or four years it has fallen to my lot to make the collections of apples for the various International Exhibitions at which Canada has been represented. We buy the apples in the fall and keep them in cold storage, and we know by the way in which they turn out during the following summer, as to what varieties give the best results in cold storage, and the effect of different kinds of treatment on the keeping of apples. Some of these points I expect to bring out in the course of my evidence.

I would ask your permission then to present this subject to you in the following order: First, the cold storage of apples; second, the cold storage of grapes; and third, the result of some trial shipments of peaches to Great Britain.

*By Mr. Owen:*

Q. Will you tell us at what temperature you keep your cold storage for apples?

A. Yes, I will give that information later if I may.