

the benefit of this boon. That it has thus far failed to prove a success, is, I believe, neither his fault nor ours, but is largely owing to the want of sympathy with the movement which the steamship people have manifested. The time when cold storage would have benefited our fruit growers most was at the beginning of the shipping season when gravensteins and other soft varieties were being sent. But the appliances, I believe, were not put on until after these were shipped, and when these were provided little or no pains were taken to let the fact be known. The agents or shippers along the line of railway who were getting the rebate had no sympathy with the cold storage movement, from the fact, I suspect, that they got no rebate on those barrels sent in cold storage. At any rate in our part of the valley, some of these agents persuaded farmers not to ship in cold storage. Then, too, quite early in the season a story was started in London, I half suspect by the steamship people, that the few sent in cold storage did not reach the other side in good condition. Added to these things is the fact that while they bargained with the department that the extra charge for cold storage should not exceed ten shillings for 70 cubic feet of space, or less than a shilling a barrel, they immediately proceeded to charge 35 cents per barrel or 45 per cent. more than their contract allowed. Then, too, at an early stage of the season before our people had time to receive returns for the first lots sent in cold storage, the announcement was made in the Halifax Herald by the company's representative that the cold storage appliances had been taken out of their steamers, the statement being falsely made that these appliances had been put in as a private enterprise. Under all these circumstances is it any wonder that cold storage proved a partial failure on these boats?

Dr. DeWitt said,—Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: "Providence helps those who help themselves." This maxim, I believe to be true of the farmer as well as of the fruit grower of this valley. The farmers and fruit growers have known for a long time past that they have had to pay a higher rate of freight for the transportation of their apples than the shippers of any other country in the universe. They know that in this essential, they have been handicapped—that they must either ship or sell to some speculator, and if they ship they do so at a great disadvantage and