

Lockport; the North Atlantic Fisheries, Port Hawkesbury, and the Halifax Cold Storage Company, Port Hawkesbury. The Halifax Cold Storage Company's warehouse was burned in 1913. In Ontario, there are Scott and Hogg, Peterborough; the J. D. Moore Company, St. Mary's; Lemon Brothers, Owen Sound; the Chatham Fruit Growers' Association, Chatham; the O'Keefe & Drew Abattoir Company, Chatham; the Palmerston Cold Storage Company, Palmerston; the Trenton Cooperaage Mills, Limited, Trenton; the St. Lawrence Produce Company, Brockville; Flavelles, Limited, Lindsay; Gunn's, Limited, Harriston; the St. Thomas Cold Storage Company, St. Thomas; the Brantford Cold Storage Company, Brantford; the Whyte Packing Company, Mitchell; and the Algoma Produce Company, Sault Ste. Marie. In Prince Edward Island there is the Island Cold Storage Company, Charlottetown; in Quebec, the Dominion Fish and Fruit Company, Quebec, and J. H. Sans Regret, Joliette; in Saskatchewan, the Moosejaw Cold Storage Company, Moosejaw, the City Cold Storage Company, Regina, and H. Gauvin, Vonda.

Mr. CARVELL: Are there many of these warehouses large institutions?

Mr. HAZEN: The Atlantic Fisheries warehouse is a large institution; it cost \$200,000. The warehouse at Prince Rupert is also a very large one; it cost \$350,000.

Mr. TURRIFF: Are all the cold storage warehouses which are aided by the Government in operation?

Mr. HAZEN: I am informed that they are all in operation.

Mr. CARVELL: I would suggest that the minister consult with the officers of his department as to the desirability of giving a little larger subsidy to these warehouses, and as to imposing more restrictions compelling the owners to accept goods at fair rates. I am not finding fault with the local institution, but the warehouse at Woodstock, was, I think, too small in the first place. It was so small that the owners could not branch out, and could not invite the public to use it, because they occupied practically all the space themselves.

Mr. HAZEN: It received some aid from the local Government, I think?

Mr. CARVELL: Yes, I mentioned that. My view is that if the subsidies were made larger, and the conditions more stringent, we would get better results. In the Wood-

[Mr. Hazen.]

stock warehouse, if any one wanted to store say a certain quantity of meat, the owners would say: we are sorry, but all the space fit for that kind of storage is occupied. I think there ought to be some better regulations as regards the occupancy of the building, and also some better control of the rates than the department exercises at the present time. However, I heartily approve of the principle, and I hope the Government will establish more warehouses. I am surprised, in view of the results of which I know personally, that more companies have not taken advantage of the Act.

Mr. OLIVER: Is the department satisfied that the cold storage system, as it is operated, has a tendency to improve prices in the case of the producer, and to decrease prices in the case of the consumer? That was the intention of the Government in aiding the establishment of cold storage warehouses, but there are people to-day who have grave doubts as to whether that result has been achieved. I would like to have the opinion of the department on that point.

Mr. HAZEN: I do not think that the officers of the department are willing to commit themselves on that point, but, from what I know about the subject, I think the establishment of these warehouses has increased prices to the producer, though I doubt whether they have reduced prices to the consumer. It may have equalized prices to some extent. In consequence of the cold storage facilities, the producer is able to keep his products until the market is ready, and he is not forced to put them on the market in order to save them from destruction, as used to be the case, thereby causing a glut in the market and bringing the prices down. That of course, meant lower prices to the consumer.

Mr. CARVELL: But there were times when the consumer could not get the products at all.

Mr. HAZEN: On the whole I think the effect has been beneficial in the direction of equalizing prices, and certainly beneficial to the farmers and producers. Of course that is only a personal opinion.

Mr. OLIVER: This is a very important question, probably too important to discuss at this late hour, and I think it is one that might very well be considered carefully. There is the possibility that the owner of a cold storage establishment may use the stocks which he has on hand from the previous season, and which he is able to keep, to hammer down the prices of the producer at the time of greatest as well as of least