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THE FRUIT SHOULD BE A SEPARATE DIVISION

IT has been announced in the press that the Dominion fruit division will shortly be placed under the control of the Dominion dairy division. This action is the result of the resignation of Prof. James W. Robertson as the Commissioner of Agriculture and Dairying. That the fruit growers of Canada are opposed to such action is evidenced by interviews secured by The Canadian Horticulturist with representative growers.

"Such action," said Mr. W. H. Bunting, of St. Catharines, the honorary president of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association, and a prominent member of the Niagara Peninsula Fruit Growers' Association, "would be very disastrous to the fruit interests of Canada. Our fruit interests are important enough to have a footing of their own and should not be made subordinate to any other interest, no matter how important that interest may be. As fruit growers we feel that we should have the right, through the chief of our division, to go direct to the Minister of Agriculture. This right will only be assured us by the fruit division being recognized as a division by itself, with its head responsible only to the Minister of Agriculture. I am satisfied that any such action will be strongly opposed by fruit growers generally, and would like to see the views of the growers laid before Hon. Sydney Fisher in time, if possible, to prevent the proposed amalgamation."

Mr. Murray Pettit, of Winona, a director of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association and president of the Niagara District Fruit Growers' Stock Co., Limited, said: "It is decidedly in the interests of fruit growers that the fruit division shall be continued as a division by itself and not amalgamated with any other division. The fruit interests are of great importance and are increasing in extent very rapidly. As fruit growers we feel that these interests will be best served by being directed solely by a person who represents the fruit interests, this person to be directly responsible to the Minister of Agriculture and to no other person. Fruit growers generally are of this opinion and are strongly opposed to any action that is likely to affect the value of the work of the fruit division or that will restrict its operations in any way."

One of the largest fruit growers in Canada, Mr. E. D. Smith, of Winona, was equally emphatic in his views as expressed to The Horticulturist. "The fruit interests," said Mr. Smith, "while not as important as the dairy interests, are of sufficient importance to be entitled to a division independent of any other. When we make suggestions to the head of the fruit division we do not want to feel that these suggestions must in turn be submitted for approval to the head of some other division, who is in no way interested in fruit, before action can be taken. If it is proposed to com-