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car and consequently he gets a lower rate per barrel than the man who ships by actual weight.

The CHAIRMAN.—The shipper is not allowed to do that.

Mr. THORNTON.—I know it is not allowed, but it is done.

Mr. DOUGLAS.—The railway company classification does not allow that, the standard weight for the barrel is 165 pounds.

By Mr. Armstrong (Lambton):

Q. Are the Nova Scotian barrels containing 20 pounds less apples placed alongside the barrels of Ontario apples in the western market and sold at the same price? Does not that give the Nova Scotian apples the advantage with the consumer who does not know the difference in the weight?

A. No, I claim that the Ontario has the advantage, but when our Gravensteins go in there there are no Ontario apples on the market.

Q. Are your Nova Scotian people willing to conform to a regulation requiring a standard barrel containing a certain quantity of fruit?

A. The fruit companies have decided now to have the Ontario barrel, that is as far as the executive committee is concerned. I do not know how the farmers will back them up when we have our annual meeting in July, but the members of the committee are in favour of adopting the Ontario size.

Q. Do you ship any other kind of apples to the West besides Gravensteins?

A. When it comes to the season when we could ship the Kings it is cold enough for refrigerator cars, and as we cannot get them we are debarred from shipping that variety.

By the Chairman:

Q. You could not ship them out West in the late fall if you wished on account of the climatic conditions?

A. No, not without refrigerator cars, we cannot even ship to the local markets in the cold weather unless we put a stove in the car and a man with it.

By Mr. Armstrong (Lambton):

Q. Would it not be better to have uniformity of size in the barrels and boxes?

A. Yes, it would.

Q. How could that be brought about?

A. The Ontario people have a large barrel, and it is a great question in Nova Scotia whether it would not be better for us to adopt that standard; the United Fruit Companies will, I think adopt the larger barrel.

By Mr. Thornton:

Q. That will account for the difference in cost of transportation largely, the difference in size between the Ontario and Nova Scotian barrel. I find now we can get an apple barrel in Ontario for 45 cents, whereas a barrel with a head three-quarters of an inch larger requires three staves more to make it, and we have to pay 15 cents more for that larger barrel, there is 15 cents difference in the price of those two barrels as a result of the difference of three-quarters of an inch in size.

A. The difference in cost would be on account of the extra material required, it does not require any more labour, it costs as much to make the smaller barrel as it does to make the larger so far as labour is concerned.

The CHAIRMAN.—It is the cost of the material for the extra three staves.

By Mr. Foster (Kings, N.S.):

Q. What is the current price for land in the Annapolis Valley?

A. Raw land is worth from \$20 to \$50 per acre, this price is for land with no trees on it.

Q. It is good land, is it?

A. Yes, good land.