

## APPENDIX No. 3

Bill, would be of use throughout the country? It is fruit culture you are in?—A. Fruit culture, yes. Without attempting any criticism of the Bill, I will say that in its general principle the measure appears to me—

Q. I did not ask you your occupation?—A. I am Chief of the Fruit Division in the Dairy Commissioner's Branch. I consider the principle embodied in the Bill is a very admirable one as applied to the fruit industry, and as that industry, particularly the apple trade, is carried on throughout Canada is almost essential to its continuance as a branch of mixed farming.

Q. You have had occasion, in your experience, to see that co-operation in regard to apple production has produced good results in Canada?—A. Splendid results. As you are aware, confining myself exclusively to the apple industry, apples are grown to a greater or less degree on almost every farm. In western Ontario small orchards from one to five acres are the rule through the counties. That is specifically so through the western and middle counties of Ontario. The same general rule hold in eastern townships of Quebec and the St. John valley, New Brunswick, portions of the Annapolis valley, Nova Scotia, and throughout the apple-growing portions of Prince Edward Island, which are ever increasing and likely to increase still faster. Now, these small orchards have too many varieties and have many difficulties to contend with, but most of these difficulties can be overcome by co-operating more particularly for the purpose of selling the fruit, but also for many of the operations of fruit-growing, such as spraying. Therefore I consider this principle of co-operation, as embodied in the Bill, exceedingly useful to the apple industry. I have numerous examples, if they are of any use to the Committee, of the usefulness of this method, because we have a sufficient number of these associations now in active operation in one form or another to enable us to pronounce upon the benefits which they have secured for the fruit-growers. Let me say that I am more or less familiar with the apple co-operative associations in the whole of Canada.

Q. There is a large production of apples on the island of Montreal, is there not?—

A. A very large production of two or three varieties especially.

Q. And is it not a fact that up till lately much of these apples have been wasted?—

A. I should say that not less than fifty per cent of the quantity have been wasted from one cause or another, and probably seventy-five per cent—note the percentage—of the possible revenue has not been obtained.

*By Mr. Smith (Nanaimo):*

Q. What is the basis of the organization of these movements?—A. They originated, and in one or two cases now consist, in simply eight, ten or more farmers without any organization beyond a mutual agreement to put their fruit into the hands of a manager for sale. A step beyond that is where they have organized under the Cold Storage Act in Ontario and under various other Acts, especially the Farmers' Institute Act in British Columbia, and a similar Act in Nova Scotia. It has been a good thing for the farmers in those provinces who have no help to expect from the government except in Ontario in cases where they built cold storage chambers. But that has never been done in connection with the apple business as the investment was not sufficient or the necessity sufficiently great.

*By Mr. Monk:*

Q. I quoted to Professor Shortt a few moments ago a passage taken from the recent book by Mr. E. A. Pratt, on "The Organization of Agriculture." Let me just quote the passage to you:—

'Another factor in the situation is the absolute need that agricultural credit should go hand in hand with agricultural organization. The necessity for this dual arrangement has been proved over and over again on the continent of Europe, and though the financial position of British agriculturists in general may be more favourable than that of the peasantry in various other countries where an easy agricultural credit was