

sumer gets this fruit at an average price of less than the rate of duty, the fruit being sold at 1½ to 2 cents per pound. There has been no increase to the consumer in the price of the protected commodity.

The present condition of affairs is not in any way temporary. Rather will it go from bad to worse. It is true that the continued financial stringency, so vastly accentuated by the war, has affected the position, but that to the extent only of further reducing prices. That condition does not account for nor did it bring about American dumping.

The moment the Canadian producer had any appreciable quantity to put on his home markets, the American dumped his surplus in those of the Canadian markets he could reach. From year to year the Canadian product increases in bulk. From year to year the surplus of the American increases in bulk. Unless prevented, the American must dump an ever-increasing quantity in the future, even under normal financial and other conditions.

NOTE.—The Dominion Government still continues to urge fruit-growing in British Columbia as a good investment. (*Vide Fruit & Farm* of January, 1915, and other papers; e.g., "If you want a sure living," etc., "buy or rent a British Columbia fruit-ranch.")

The legislative Assembly of British Columbia having in view the critical situation of the fruit industry, on February 17th, 1915, passed the following resolution:—

"Moved by A. Lucas, seconded by Jas. Schofield,—

"That whereas the following conditions exist affecting the interests of the apple industry of Canada:—

"Between the years 1900 and 1910 the production of apples in the United States, in relation to demand, ensuring fair prices to producers:

"In 1914, the production, through the stimulation of success during the ten years mentioned, had increased nearly two and a half times. Almost one-half of this went into the ordinary commercial channels and much of the remainder went to waste, with the result of a disastrous decline in prices:

"The overproduction in apples in the United States had the effect of a large export of the surplus to Canada at prices at which the producers in the latter country could not profitably grow and market their fruit:

"These general conditions were accentuated in the territory of the North-west Pacific Coast:

"In the four States of Washington, Oregon, Montana, and Idaho the area of orchards and the production of apples have enormously increased during the past ten years, with the result that in 1914 the commercial output was 14,000 carloads. With the great area of orchards not yet in bearing, that production will steadily increase in a similar ratio:

"As a consequence of this increased production there was overproduction in 1914 and disastrous prices. Hundreds of car-loads of the surplus apples were shipped from these four States into Western Canada, upon which market British Columbia growers must mainly depend, at prices with which the latter cannot, without loss, compete:

"On account of this condition of affairs, although, as the result of rapid expansion of the orchard areas, the apple production in the interior parts of British Columbia was larger and better in quality than ever before, prices have been seriously depressed and the effect upon the industry has been equally depressing:

"And whereas, in view of such conditions, it is highly desirable to point out to the Federal authorities that—

"There is, in the existing circumstances of overproduction in the United States and unfair competition in the Canadian markets as a consequence, no prospect of betterment in the future:

"Western Canada is the largest and best market for British Columbia and Ontario apples, and has been supplied from as far east as Nova Scotia: