

requirement of the act that the membership shall be at least 50 precludes their formation. Some change should be made in the act in this respect and horticultural societies should be made distinct from agricultural societies as regards their grant."

Alex. McNeill, Chief Fruit Division, Ottawa: "There is no doubt we are all agreed that the funds for agricultural society purposes are in many cases scandalously wasted, and something must be done if we are to avoid a great scandal in the administration of the agricultural affairs of this province. Instead of being schools of virtue, many of our fairs are schools of vice."

"I agree with Mr. Cowan that we need to make a very strong move in favor of better horticultural instruction. As to how that is to be brought about, we may perhaps differ. It seems to me that simply to form another society does not solve the problem. Horticulture is just as much the object of the Fruit Growers' Association as the growing of fruit. The trouble is that the horticulturists have not forced themselves on the attention of the public to the extent necessary to get their due share of interest and attention. I believe that the best way to secure the ends we have in view is to retain the present organization rather than to form another society, involving a new set of officers. Let us have a fruit section, a horticultural section, a forestry section, with the same set of officers, office expenses, etc. There is no reason why the one society should not cover all this work."

#### FAVORED AN ASSOCIATION.

Major H. J. Snelgrove, Cobourg: "I desire to express the satisfaction of our society at the very excellent service which our superintendent is rendering us in his oversight of our work. We have received new inspiration from him since he occupied the office. I am glad that a move is being made to establish a Provincial Horticultural Society which will form an alliance with the local horticultural societies. The act under which we work has been on the Statute book for 30 years and it is high time that it should be made to represent the present day requirements of horticultural societies. We are performing a work which is entirely distinct from the professional side of horticulture. The fruit growers look at the commercial side, and while they are indirectly serving the community, they are first and foremost serving themselves and filling their own pockets. We are working for the good of the public, for municipal betterment and for the beautifying of our homes and surroundings."

"There is one strong reason why the Act should be amended: The clause providing for the organization of horticultural societies stipulates that the money a society receives as a government grant shall be expended only on lectures, exhibitions and the distribution of plants, etc. This is altogether too narrow a limitation. It prevents a society from doing anything for municipal betterment—towards the improvement of the parks and public playgrounds of the towns."

"I should like to take issue with Mr. McNeill who claims that we should retain the present organization. I had the honor to be a director of the Fruit Growers' Association and know something of its workings. While fully 80 per cent. of its members are members of horticultural societies, the fact remains that only one or two of its directors are interested in horticulture out of some 15 or 16 officers and directors. I am prepared to move that we proceed to organize a Provincial Horticultural Association."

The secretary of the Grimsby Horticultural Society was born in Wentworth county, and after a collegiate and business college education, embarked in the general store business with his father. Eight years ago they purchased a fine orchard and residence near the village of Grimsby. Last summer the secretary made a tour of the deciduous sections of California and devoted a great deal of time to studying the methods of growing and packing fruit practiced in that great fruit state and derived gratifying results from his trip. The Grimsby Horticultural Society is one of the most energetic in the province. Interesting meetings are held every year, often in the homes of the members,

when excellent exhibits of fruit are frequently made and instructive discussions held. Last month the society appointed Mr. Brennan to act as delegate at the horticultural convention held in Toronto.



J. W. BRENNAN.

Mr. R. B. Whyte, Ottawa: "I agree with Mr. McNeill as to the undesirability of multiplying organizations. I have always thought that the horticultural element was fairly well represented on the directorate of the Fruit Growers' Association. They have always had four to six directors. I agree that horticultural societies should be entirely divorced from agricultural societies. They have very little in common, and I think it tends to prevent their formation in some districts, as Mr. Cowan pointed out. Our grants should be made independent of the agricultural societies and should be divided partly according to membership, but more in proportion to the work done."

"For the last three years the Fruit Growers' association has held separate meetings in the interest of horticulture. I think there might be a special committee appointed by the horticultural societies to look after that department and send delegates to the annual convention. I think that the department should pay the expense of one delegate from each hundred members. In that way you would get all the advantage of a separate organization."

Mr. Rutherford, Hamilton: "It appears to me that all that is necessary is for us to remain as we are and have the Act amended. If it is any object, let the horticultural societies have a meeting like this every year and exchange views. If there is any idea of forming such an association as has been suggested, I think that the better way to go about it would be ap-