

Mr. BOULTER : It is a beautiful, bright apple ; and has good keeping qualities. Along in March the Ben Davis is very good. This is the first year that I have not had a good crop of them. The Pewaukee has not been widely cultivated in Prince Edward County yet. To-day I have no more healthy apple trees than the Spies and Baldwins and Golden Russets.

The PRESIDENT : What varieties do you prefer for canning ?

Mr. BOULTER : For summer apples we want the Duchess of Oldenburg first. If we could not get any other we would take it the second time and the third time. We like the St. Lawrence, and we like the Fall Jenetting, although it is a very rough, hard apple to peel. These are three good varieties that cannot possibly be beaten in the way of canning apples. Let me tell you, whatever taste an apple has, when it is peeled and put into the can, it will come out and taste just the same six months or six years after. Consequently if you put an apple that is tasteless, your canned fruit will have no taste. There is too much water in the Colvert and in the Snow. I have done my best to make a success of the Snow as a canning apple, and I cannot do it ; it is too soft and watery. There is no apple that cans better than the Northern Spy.

Mr. J. MCK. SMITH (Peterborough) : What about the Ben Davis ?

Mr. BOULTER : The Ben Davis is a good apple, but it takes about a year to get it ready.

Mr. McNEIL (Windsor) : One gentleman at the Windsor meeting attempted to say that the Ben Davis was the most profitable apple that he grew, and the Convention almost laughed him down. I sent him some enquiries in connection with this meeting, and he said, "By all means give the Ben Davis a good word ; it is the best apple I have yet." Last January he sent me some Ben Davis apples. I tell you they are just as nice an apple as I want to eat—and I am very particular about apples, too. The Ben Davis is like a piece of cork, as you might say, in the fall and winter, but coming along in January I give them to the children, and they take them willingly when the better class of apples would be refused. Either your Ben Davis isn't ours, or else your taste is perverted. As for profit, I believe there is no apple grown that will give you as much. For a winter apple why not plant it more largely ? It appears to me there is a feeling in the Association that we should not plant it ; and the feeling comes not from those who really have it but from those who are struggling after higher things in fruit. Now, let us have the higher things, but let us have a little money element in it. (Hear, hear.) I believe for the money element the Ben Davis is ahead of them all. I would not grow it exclusively ; but let us give it a good show, and put it on its proper plane, and show when it should be used and when it should not be used—give it its proper place in January, February and March.

Mr. STINSON (Peterborough) : I planted out 17 Ben Davis sixteen years ago. They started to bear six years after planting and have been bearing ever since. This last year I took 86 bushel off those trees, and took 80 bushels of good salable apples out of the lot. From my experience I would sooner grow the Ben Davis at 50 cents a bushel than any other apple at a dollar.

Mr. TURNER (Cornwall) : I have eaten Ben Davis in July—my own growing.

Mr. OASTON : I saw a specimen that was kept for two years, and they were not rotten then—they were only shrivelled.

Mr. BOULTER : I would like to ask Mr. Dempsey if the Ben Davis is successful with him.

Mr. DEMPSEY (Trenton) : The Ben Davis has proved to be one of the most profitable apples we have planted, and the Spys one of the most unprofitable. I would not advise planting the Spy on any consideration, unless for a man of great wealth who could wait for it. I would rather see him plant some Duchess or Wealthy or Ontario—such apples as come into bearing and he can get his money out of them. Spys stand for a great many years, and you do not get your money out of them. I have now some 400 trees some sixteen years planted, and the total crop off these, two years ago, was some twenty barrels.