

just the same with the cattle market and the horse market, and these things cure themselves. You cannot order any man to stop planting or even suggest it. Individuals must be the best judge. Quality will always rule.

Prof. SHORT, of Queen's: Are farmers finding it more profitable to grow any other crops than fruit? It is quite obvious that they will go into fruit until the profits on fruit come down, and as long as the price of grain and other produce continues low the price of fruit cannot be high, unless you adopt Mr. Pattison's plan of restricting the planting. But there is another point of view—that of the consumer. (Laughter.) I wish there could have been put before this Association a fair sample of the kind of fruit that was put on the Kingston market this summer. As a regular visitor to the markets I must confess that I was lamentably deceived on quite a number of occasions this summer in purchasing what I took to be, from the aspect of it, a very fair basket of fruit, and when I arrived at home about half of it had to be thrown out, and as an individual in such cases I was discouraged from buying another basket of fruit; although if I had been successful in getting good ones I should have bought probably twice as much on account of the importance which I attach to the devouring of fruit. It seems to me that the Ontario people might take a leaf out of the California book and put up their fruit in some better order and in a shape that would guarantee that the bottom of the basket or package would be fairly in keeping with the surface of it, and the fruit would not be in such a dilapidated condition when it reaches places like Kingston, which has to depend largely on outside areas.

A DELEGATE: To what particular fruit do you refer?

Prof. SHORT: I refer to plums, peaches and grapes in particular.

Mr. JOHN STEWART, of Benmiller: I think the cause of the low prices in fruit put up for market is that it is not properly matured. I saw thousands of baskets of plums shipped from my section to London and Toronto that were not ripe and fit to handle; and I saw them sold in London for twenty-five cents a basket. I had some sold in the same market for sixty and seventy cents a basket. I think there is a great deal to be done with proper selection in shipping. In regard to over-production this season, I have shipped several car-loads of apples to the old country and my prices have been fair, netting from \$1 to \$1.30 per barrel. I know parties that shipped at the same time to the same market and got \$1.14 a barrel for the King; I realized \$1 a barrel for the King. If the fruit is not put up well and in an attractive manner it will not sell well in any market. One trouble in shipping apples in barrels is that the fruit is over-pressed and heated up too high. There is no need for fruit in a barrel to be bruised any more than in a box.

Mr. WHYTE: Hardly five per cent. of the peaches landed in the Ottawa market were fit to eat; they were as hard as bullets. (Laughter). If the fruit had been put on the market in a fit state to use, I think a large quantity of peaches would have been eaten raw. I bought baskets of grapes this year that were perfectly unfit for human food. They were dirty and broken and bruised, and bunches only half filled, and never should have been sold at all. That is the condition of things that brings down the prices of fruit. When you are buying a basket of grapes you cannot tell whether they are good fruit or only fit to throw out. I think there would be a large market for western plums to be eaten raw if they could be put down in a good condition. The California plums you get soft and in a good condition to eat; but they are undoubtedly inferior to the Ontario plums.

Mr. FISHER: If you do not want this green fruit do not buy it. The reason we prefer to ship fruit green is that it then realizes more money than matured fruit.

Mr. WHYTE: This is not early fruit; all through the season we bought peaches that were unfit to eat.

Mr. BOULTER: Don't you get the names of the packers on the packages?

Mr. WHYTE: No, they don't do that.

Rev. PRINCIPAL GRANT: I think where we have been making a mistake the last half hour is forgetting that evidently Mr. Pattison is a humorist, and he intended that