

Mr. CASTON : Do you think that the judges can always determine ?

Mr. BURRELL : I do not say you always can. but there are many cases where there is absolutely no doubt about it.

Mr. CASTON : I should think it would be very difficult for a judge to decide.

Mr. BURRELL : Sometimes it is very difficult, but it is sometimes very easy.

Mr. HUGGARD (Whitby) : If we were to adopt the system Mr. Burrell advocates, the best in fruits would not be exhibited at all. That is, giving none of the prizes to grapes that were ringed. It would apply equally to all manner of cattle, and horses, and stock ; the better you feed it and the better you doctor it up, it would make it win a prize all the sooner. I don't see any reason why, if a man goes to the trouble to ring his grape vines and produce a few clusters of extra good grapes, it would not be equivalent to another man who would pick most of the pears off his pear tree and bring in a few choice ones of very extra ones. You would have to prevent the one just as much as the other. My notion is to let everybody bring the best that they can possibly produce ; but have a specific rule and see that it is carried out, that in the case of any one begging, borrowing, or stealing fruit that is not his own, the prizes should be withheld. The majority of the exhibitors send in their exhibits for the money value that is in the prize. Our township people go there for the purpose of getting money out of the exhibitions, and if they are awarded the prize and don't get it, no matter how trifling it is, you will hear a great deal of squealing against the association or society. I think the best way that an association can do is to encourage growing grapes of the largest possible kind, whether ringed or otherwise, and the best of every kind of fruit that we are capable of producing, and if a rule which is severe enough now is applied to these professionals who collect fruit through the districts and exhibit it as their own, they will soon drop out.

R. B. WHYTE (Ottawa) : It seems to be a question whether the ringed grapes are the best. I think it is generally understood that they are bad in flavor, and would never be bought by anybody in competition with other grapes ; therefore ringed grapes should be prohibited. They are large and watery and of poor flavour. In our Horticultural Society we had a little trouble with exhibitors by requiring every member in making his entry to sign a declaration that all articles exhibited by him were of his own growth. We have not had a bit of trouble this year. I cannot see any object in having an exhibition at all if it is not the production of the individual grower. I do not think we can take a better way of having a small exhibition than by allowing people to go about and collect what they do not grow. There are some fruit men along the St. Lawrence that gather up wherever they can. Our Horticultural Committee are trying to stop that, but the fact in the past has been that the local fruit growers did not gather in competition because they had no chance with those men that gather wherever they can. It deterred so many people from exhibiting that it had the effect of making a smaller exhibition than we otherwise would have.

A. H. PETTIT (Grimsby) : I think every exhibitor in a local show should sign a certificate that his fruits are his own product. I think it is very unfair to individual growers who want to make an exhibit of their own products at the fair to come in competition with those who come from all over the country ; but I do think it is quite necessary to have in our exhibitions, particularly in Toronto, a sort of go-as-you-please class, where a man can collect the products of the whole country if he wants to and show them ; but I would put that exhibit in this way, that everything should be very correctly named. We don't want a lot of fruits in this class exhibited to the public given fictitious or other incorrect names. Why ? Because that is exhibited as an educator of the people ; it is there for that purpose ; it is to show the resources of our country and the variety of fruit we can successfully cultivate, and I think it is a good thing to have it, for the reason that you get a big exhibit of this great Dominion of ours at that exhibition, and I think that is what we want, but the individual who is showing his own product wants to be protected by this form of declaration that they are his own product. As to the grape question, I have been a judge on several occasions, and I say that if you passed a rule that ringed grapes are to be ruled out, there should be a very plain card placed on