

APPENDIX No. 5

By the Chairman:

Q. You had a heavy percentage of No. 3?

A. This was an exceptionally bad year; we want to get through with it and forget it as soon as we can.

Q. Why was it a bad year?

A. Owing to fungus. It was wet, there was a good deal of wet weather in July. It rained about every other day right along for about six weeks last season.

Q. If the orchards had been thoroughly sprayed you would not have had any trouble?

A. Growers that sprayed thoroughly had beautiful apples.

Q. Then the poor quality of apples was the fault of the producer?

A. Certainly. One grower had out of 700 barrels of tree run, 500 barrels of Number Ones and Twos. A great many other growers had 60 per cent of Ones, and one even 80 per cent of Ones, which is a good pack.

By Mr. Foster (Kings, N.S.):

Q. I notice the Department of Agriculture have almost doubled the number of inspectors all over the country. What is your opinion with regard to the number of inspectors?

A. I do not think they have got too many inspectors, if they are the right men. They have a big work ahead of them, because it is very important to have the apples go out O. K.

Q. As orcharding develops, it will require a correspondingly large number of inspectors?

A. No doubt it will.

Q. Is there a sufficient number of inspectors now employed?

A. I think we have a sufficient number in Nova Scotia at the present time.

Q. With regard to the system of inspection at the warehouses as against the old system of inspection at the point of shipping, say Halifax, do you think it is better than the other?

A. Yes, I think it is. But we cannot do away with the Halifax inspection. There are a lot of apples that are packed by the farmers themselves.

By Mr. Bowman:

Q. What proportion of your pack last year was rejected by the Government inspectors, or any rejected?

A. Yes, there have been some red marks. When the fruit so marked is shipped to the other side they think the barrels are specially marked.

By Mr. Armstrong (Lambton):

Q. What is done with fruit rejected?

A. It goes to the Old Country and is sold.

Mr. Wilson (Wentworth):

Q. You told us that you took barrel staves from Ontario to your district of Nova Scotia, and had them made into barrels, and they only cost you 40 cents?

A. Yes, and I brought coopers along too.

Mr. WILSON (Wentworth).—When I told that to Mr. Armstrong he did not believe my statement.

By Mr. Armstrong (Lambton):

Q. What did you pay your men in Nova Scotia?

A. We had Ontario coopers, and I paid 40 cents for the barrel after it was made up.

Q. You brought the goods from Ontario to make it up?