

to carry well at all because it is so tender of skin, brought amongst the best prices—I think brought a far better price than either Concord or Niagara. That goes to show that the Englishmen, knowing nothing about the comparative cost of growing either the Concord or the Rogers, very much prefer the Rogers variety of grapes. Another thing I noticed was that the Black Rogers didn't bring so good a price as the red Rogers; that also surprised me.

Mr. BURRELL: I would like to ask one question on that sphagnum or peat moss, whether you find it expensive.

Prof. ROBERTSON: Trial shipments have been sent from Toronto in three different lots, and the reports have all come back that the fruit landed in first-rate condition, but it would not pay at all to ship anything like peaches in a case like that, or the softest kinds of pears in sphagnum without cold storage. If a large shipment was sent without cold storage there would be a heavy loss. Sphagnum has sold in Ottawa I think at about \$11 a ton, and I think it can be procured less than that.

Mr. BURRELL: Is it in the form of moss or powder?

Prof. ROBERTSON: Powder form. It rather blackens the fruit when it gets on the paper.

Mr. A. M. SMITH: Is there any bad flavor absorbed from it?

Prof. ROBERTSON: No; it is a very great absorbent.

Mr. BURRELL: I understood it would absorb the moisture and help to keep the fruit in that way.

ADDRESS BY MAYOR SNYDER.

I am here on behalf of the citizens of this town, and the town council especially, to extend to you a hearty welcome. We all know the benefits we have derived from your association in the past by your practical tests of the different classes and varieties of fruits, and by investigating the different diseases and insect pests which fruit trees are liable to, and by considering remedies therefor and publishing them in detail throughout this country, and also by giving the people information with regard to shipping and marketing both at home and abroad. By inviting you here we expect to derive some of this information from the discussions. We have nothing special as a town to attract you, especially at this time of year. We have a number of manufacturing industries here which will compare favorably with any town in the country in proportion to population, which is about 3,000. We hope that your meetings will be well attended, especially by the farmers of this section, and that they will benefit greatly by what they hear.

THE PRESIDENT: On behalf of the Fruit Growers' Association I have to thank you and your town's people for the hearty welcome you have given us. It is especially pleasing to us all to see the ladies here to-night. (Applause.) Where they are interested we all know that the cause is good. (Hear, hear.) We have no doubt that we will be pleased with the meeting in this place. Our welcome has been hearty in every way, and the number of persons here to-night, representing as you do the town of Waterloo, shows us the deep interest that is taken in our society. I have been much struck with the general prosperity of your town, as evidenced by the fine dwellings and prosperous factories. You have, however, also a Dominion reputation as a prosperous town—(hear, hear and applause)—and for that reason I am satisfied that although in the town your interests are more centered in manufactures, still there are evidences that you are interested in fruit culture and horticulture. I am proud to say you have one of the largest local horticultural societies in the Dominion. You have given us support in that way, and when we received your invitation to come here we felt that we could not do less than show our appreciation of your interest in horticulture by accepting it and giving you the benefit of any experience we might have. I believe that this Association is one of interest