

## APPENDIX No. 5

*By Mr. Thornton:*

Q. What was the total of the Association shipments this last season?

A. Some 400,000 barrels.

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

Q. What price did you get in 1911 in the West?

A. We sold in 1911 in the West commencing at \$2.50 a barrel, but when the speculators found there was a market there they came in and bought the apples from the growers at from \$1.10 to \$1.25 and quoted at \$1.35 to \$1.50 f.o.b. cars.

Q. That was f.o.b.?

A. Yes, we had to reduce price to \$1.75, but the farmers would sell to the speculators for from \$1.10 to \$1.50 a barrel.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. At \$1.10, do you mean picked and packed?

A. Yes.

Q. That does not include barrels?

A. Yes.

Q. What are they worth?

A. Twenty-five to thirty cents.

Q. What is the cost of packing?

A. Fifteen cents and ten cents to pick.

Q. Twenty-five cents picked and packed?

A. Yes.

Q. Your barrels were uncommonly cheap, were they not?

A. Yes.

Q. We cannot get barrels at that price up here?

A. This year they cost twenty-eight cents.

Q. You have never paid more than thirty cents down there?

A. Never except when some cooper squeezed the poor farmer, twenty-five cents has been the average price for the past ten years, but we will have to pay thirty cents for barrels in the future.

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

Q. What material are they made of?

A. Spruce—soft wood.

Q. Have the farmers any idea how long at the present rate of consumption the supply of spruce for apple barrels in Nova Scotia will last? Have any steps been taken to conserve the supply?

A. No, it has not, but we have no fears with the immense acreage of timber land there, of the supply running short.

Q. Has the Conservation Commission on Forests ever taken up the consideration of the subject with your society do you know?

A. No, it has not.

Q. Has the local government of Nova Scotia made any suggestion with regard to that matter?

A. No.

Q. What do you think? That it would be a good thing to have the farmers themselves interested in endeavouring to act in co-operation with the officials that the Government may appoint under which the conservation of forests may be looked after in the Maritime Provinces?

A. I think it would be an excellent idea because the barrel question is going to be a very serious one in the next twenty years.

Mr. FOSTER (Kings, N.S.).—I might point out to the Committee my reason for asking these questions. From the records of the local government, after an extensive