

THE NOVA SCOTIA FRUIT GROWERS.

Apples, according to Mr. Bigelow in his recent address before the Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' Association, are the principal fruit crop of that province and the total yield for export in 1901 has been about 300,000 barrels. Strange to say the English market has been the least satisfactory; the famous Gravenstein, sold in Liverpool netting the growers only \$2.00 a barrel, while this variety has sold in the American markets as high as \$4.00 and \$5.00 a barrel. Another singular thing noticed by Mr. Bigelow, is that apples have been shipped to England via Montreal at less cost and have arrived in better condition than when shipped by the much nearer route via Halifax.

The Transportation Problem was taken up by Mr. P. Innes, who complained that it actually cost less to bring apples from Ontario for the local trade, than to move them within the province of Nova Scotia. Comparing the freight on flour and apples he said:

All tariffs are governed by the value and quantity of goods carried. Apples go third class at seventeen cents per 100 lbs., while flour goes fifth class at ten and one-half cents in car lots. The development of Nova Scotian trade had grown immensely. Apples might be worth \$1.50 per barrel, flour \$3.00 to \$4.00. The difference was made in the quantities carried and the charges ought to be reversed. It was a glaring injustice that apples should be carried at an average charge of twenty-five per cent. above flour. Other associations were looking for relief in this matter and we should fall into line. He would, therefore, submit this motion again, hoping that the Association would act in the present instance to better advantage than they previously had done.

RESOLUTION.

Whereas, The Canadian Freight Rate Classification was framed at a time when

the apple production of the country was comparatively limited, while prices were high; and

Whereas, Since that time production has enormously increased, while prices have been continuously falling; and

Whereas, Apple growing has become an important industry in western Nova Scotia, the production averaging 500,000 barrels annually; and

Whereas, The said freight classification and any modifications or amendments thereof have to be submitted to the sanction and be approved by the Governor-in-council; therefore

Resolved, That this classification does not meet the altered circumstances, and is unfair and oppressive to the apple growers and shippers of the province, and that we do respectfully memorialize the Governor-in-council to cause the said classification to be amended by removing apples from the third and fifth classes to the fifth and eighth classes respectively.

Apple Packing was illustrated practically by Mr. Carson of Meaford, Ont., by the aid of two assistants, using three barrels of Baldwins and a full set of appliances. He advised first to secure enough uniform fruit for facers, i. e., the end of the barrel. With nippers remove the stems to prevent marring or breaking of the skins; this induces decay. In facing put medium sized fruit in the outside row; next circle, place a size larger and aim throughout to secure a face which will be an index of the barrel. Set the barrel on a low platform for easy working, and in securing the hoops use short nails to avoid marring the inner surface of barrel. In filling, a basket with round ends is most easily lowered into the barrel. Instead of having a "double facer," merely back the spaces of the first layer with the red side of the second. In filling put the barrel on a plank always. Shake to secure compactness.