

A Dominion Convention

A deputation of fruit growers waited on the Hon. Sydney Fisher to ask him to call a Dominion convention for the purpose of discussing various matters connected with the fruit growing industry, also to urge him to take steps to have express rates placed under the control of the Railway Commission. The deputation was an influential one and placed its views before the minister with much force.

The following were mentioned as some of the subjects which might be discussed at the convention:

Statistics and fruit crop reports.

Transportation.

Uniform packages.

Markets and marketing, including the regulation of the commission business, and all questions pertaining to interprovincial trade, also the export trade.

Adulteration of fruit products.

Regulation of nurseries and tree agents.

Amendments to the fruit marks act.

Suggestions looking to the increasing usefulness of the Dominion experimental farms and provincial experiment stations and orchards.

The deputation met with a sympathetic reception and Mr. Fisher expressed himself favorable to holding the convention. It is expected that representative fruit growers, representatives of the transportation companies, local and foreign buyers, and others more or less directly connected with the industry will be present, and that an exhibition of fruit, representative of the provinces, will be held at the same time.

Items of Interest

A very successful banquet was held by the Market Gardeners' Protective Association at Toronto March 1. The principal speakers were Hon. N. Monteith, Minister of Agriculture; Mr. J. W. St. John, M. P., and Messrs. R. C. Steele, W. Rennie, J. A. Simmers and H. B. Cowan. The affair passed off very pleasantly.

A number of fruit growers' cooperative associations have been formed in Ontario as the re-

sult of a series of fruit institute meetings. Among those associations are the Bruce Fruit Growers' Association, Thedford Association, Forest Fruit Growing and Forwarding Association, Georgian Bay Fruit Growers' Association, Lake Huron Fruit Growers Association, and Allenford Fruit Growers Association.

At a meeting of the British Columbia Central Farmers' Institute, held at Victoria February 28 to March 2, a resolution was passed unanimously endorsing the action of the Provincial Board of Horticulture in refusing admission to the province of fruit and fruit trees infected with fungus disease and infested with insect pests.

An influential deputation, introduced by Hon. J. S. Hendrie, M. P., waited on Hon. Nelson Monteith, Minister of Agriculture, recently, to urge the holding of the annual Fruit, Flower and Honey Show at Hamilton. A deputation is being formed in Toronto to wait on the minister and ask that the show shall be continued in Toronto.

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