

adjust themselves, and nobody will suffer, while all will gain by having uniformity. The co-operative association influence has seemingly turned the scale in favor of the smaller barrel.

Hon. Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture, presided throughout nearly all the sessions, evincing a lively interest in all the matters that came up, and directing the meetings with commendable tact and judgment.

Extended report of this gathering is unnecessary. It was called for business; the subjects discussed have many times been threshed out at annual fruit-growers' conventions, and the deliberations are epitomized in the resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS.

The gist of the resolutions is given herewith:

The Fruit Marks Act, it was resolved, should be amended in the following particulars: That section 4 be amended, to require the legal lettering of name, address, etc., to be in letters not less than half an inch in length.

That the option of marking apples No. 1 or XXX, No. 2 or XX, and No. 3 or X, be done away with, as the X system of marking led to confusion and was unnecessary; that instead, the No. 1 and No. 2 be the legal designations.

A subsequent clause provided for a change in the grading, to permit of a grade called "Fancy," a grade called No. 1 and a grade called No. 2. This allows three grades, and the conference decided not to advise provision for a No. 3. The amendment embodying this proposed change of grades reads: That section 6 be amended as follows:

"No person shall sell, or offer, expose or have in his possession for sale any fruit packed in a closed package upon which package is marked any designation which represents such fruit as of 'fancy' quality, unless such fruit consist of well-grown specimens of one variety, sound, of uniform and at least normal size, and of good color for the variety, and of normal shape and be properly packed."

That a sub-section A shall be added to section 6, as follows:

"No person shall sell, or offer, or have in his possession for sale, any fruit packed in a closed package upon which package is marked any designation which represents such fruit as of No. 1 quality, unless such fruit consist of well-grown specimens of one variety, sound, of not less than medium size and of good color for the variety, of normal shape, and not less than ninety per cent. free from scab, worm-holes, bruises and other defects, and be properly packed."

That a sub-section B be added to section 6, as follows:

"No person shall sell, or offer, or have in his possession for sale, any fruit packed in a closed package upon which package is marked any designation which represents such fruit as of No. 2 quality, unless such fruit consist of specimens of nearly medium size for the variety, and not less than 80 per cent. free from worm-holes, and free from such other defects as cause material waste, and be properly packed."

Exception has already been taken to the definition of No. 2's, and it is likely to be amended to make it more stringent before passing the House of Commons. The phrase to which the fruit inspectors object as allowing too much latitude is, "and free from such other defects as cause material waste."

Later on a resolution passed, which prescribed that all the marks on packages required by the Fruit Marks Act be put on one end of the package.

Transportation was dealt with in a couple of resolutions, one relating to rail and the other to marine carriage. The former was introduced by W. H. Bunting, of St. Catharines, and reads:

"That the Railway Commission be requested to order: (a) That a time limit for the transportation of perishable fruits of not less than twelve miles per hour be put in force upon the railways of Canada, which time limit if not maintained shall place the onus of responsibility upon the carrying company if loss or damage is sustained thereby.

"(b) That when railway companies fail to furnish suitable equipment for the transportation of fruit within six days after the time an order is placed with the local agent, a penalty be provided for each subsequent day's delay.

"(c) That icing stations be established at divisional points on all railways engaged in the transportation of fruit, and that cars fully iced be furnished when necessary by the shipper.

"(d) That at all stations where fruit is customarily loaded in car lots, shelter from sun and rain shall be provided.

"(e) That when requested, shippers of perishable fruit shall be furnished by the local agent with a daily report of the location of a car of fruit while in transit.

"(f) That a rate for transportation of apples shall correspond to the present rate for flour, until such time as the railway companies furnish satisfactory equipment and service."

Water transportation was dealt with in the following manner:

"Whereas, the export of fruit from the Maritime Provinces by sea is not at present satisfactory, on account of the slow service provided by the lines now sailing from Halifax to Great Britain;

"And, whereas, these lines are subsidized by the Federal Government for amounts which should give a satisfactory service;

"Therefore, be it resolved, that we ask the Government to combine the two subsidies now paid to two lines in a subsidy to any one line which will give a

12-knot weekly service during the fruit-shipping season.

"Resolved, that (a) all subsidized steamship lines should have good ships at not less than 12 knots speed, with thoroughly ventilated holds for fruit, apart and free from heat and taint of other cargo.

"(b) Close supervision of the stevedores to ensure proper stowage and careful handling in both loading and discharging.

"(c) Just and reasonable conditions in all bills of lading, so that in case of loss through breakage or non-delivery of goods the shipper may easily recover such loss from the shipping company.

"(d) That the Government should hold back part of such subsidy in order to indemnify shippers that may have suffered loss through the failure of a steamship to sail within a reasonable time of the advertised date of sailing."

A paper on adulteration of fruit products was capped with a resolution as follows:

"Whereas, a large percentage of the jams and jellies labelled 'genuine' or 'pure,' which are offered for sale within the Dominion are adulterated; and, whereas, the low prices quoted on these articles secure for them a ready sale, to the disadvantage of the pure article;

"And, whereas, the interests of the manufacturers of pure goods, the fruit-growers and consumers are thereby impaired;

"Therefore, be it resolved, that this conference urgently requests the Federal Government to secure the immediate enforcement of the Pure Foods Act, and that the Act be so amended as to compel the manufacturers of jams and jellies to print their formulas on their labels."

Another resolution expressed appreciation of the services of the Dominion fruit inspectors, in performing educational work when not otherwise employed, and praying for continuance of their valuable services in this connection.

The thanks of the conference was expressed to the Minister of Agriculture for his assistance in advertising our products abroad by displays at leading exhibitions. Further aid was solicited, and it was requested that exhibits representing all of the Provinces of the Dominion be held at the fall show of the Royal Horticultural Society, England, in 1906. It was also suggested in this connection that in future the fruit for exhibition purposes, particularly apples, be gathered in orchards during the picking season, properly wrapped, packed and placed in cold storage, instead of making selections during the winter months from stock in storage; and, further, that part of each display be exhibited in the packages generally used in carrying such products to the markets.

The experiment station and illustration work in fruit, carried on by the various Provinces, was described by L. Woolverton, of Ontario; Prof. Sears, Nova Scotia; Thos. A. Peters, New Brunswick; J. C. Readey, Prince Edward Island; Mr. Chapais, Quebec. Prof. Hutt, of Ontario Agricultural College, referred to the value of co-operative experimental work in fruit, and pointed out that such effort developed not only horticulture but the horticulturists. The opinion of the meeting on the matter of experimental work was framed as follows:

"That the Horticulturist of the Central Experimental Farm, or other competent officer, should be authorized to collect information on fruit topics from the work of the various Provinces, whether done by fruit stations, or otherwise; to advise with Provincial organizations regarding such subjects as nomenclature of fruits, identification of varieties; origination and distribution of new varieties, history of varieties, and to publish a digest of every year, giving number and title of the Provincial reports in which details may be found."

"That new sub-stations be established in the various Provinces of the Dominion wherever local conditions and the importance of the fruit interests may warrant it, for experiments in pruning, spraying, irrigating, fertilizing, studying orchard pests, testing new varieties and investigating the many new questions constantly confronting the fruit-grower."

"That experimental orchards be established in the dry-belt and on Vancouver Island and in the Kootenay; and that the British Columbia representatives be requested to use their influence to have these stations established."

The subject of fruit-crop statistics was dealt with in a resolution introduced by A. W. Peart, of Ontario: That the delegates to this conference from the several Provinces petition their respective Governments to collect, classify and publish henceforth in detail in their annual reports the statistics bearing on fruits; that the Dominion Government be asked to give in the next census further subdivisions of the tables and figures relating to fruits; and that we recognize and appreciate the valuable information given heretofore by the Dominion and various Provincial Governments on fruit statistics.

It was also suggested that the Fruit Division be asked:

1. To issue monthly reports, from May to August, inclusive, and semi-monthly from September to December, inclusive.

2. That the reports should include weather, general condition of trees, plants, vines and bushes, insects, fungous diseases, outlook or probable quantity of crop, and market quotations for each of the Provinces.

3. That there be set forth the outlook or probable crop of apples in those countries to which Canada exports, such as Great Britain, Germany, France, South Africa, Mexico, and other countries where profitable markets may be secured.

4. That Canadian representatives in the above countries be instructed to cable weekly at the proper season the prices ruling for apples and pears in those countries, said cables to be published in a weekly report, and in such newspapers as would be willing to print them free.

Individual or co-operative sale of fruit was urged upon growers; also the adoption of a better system of pruning, spraying, grading and packing.

The Provincial Governments were urged to enact legislation regarding the commission business, for the protection of the interests of shippers consigning fruit to firms in the several Provinces.

The advisability or otherwise of forming a Canadian Pomological Society was brought forward, but on the assurance of the Minister of Agriculture that he would be willing to convene a conference of this kind every few years if desired, having, say, one conference for some great agricultural interest—such as fruit, dairy, etc.—every year, the permanent Dominion organization was not called for, and the motion was laid on the table.

The matter of tariff on sugar came up, in a paper by Robt. Anderson, of Montreal, but it was felt unwise to deal with a question of this kind, affecting the policy of the Government.

The question of extending our trade with Germany was brought forward by A. S. Chapin. The Minister explained Canada was willing to negotiate with Germany for improved trade relations whenever Germany was ready.

It was suggested that a permanent treatise upon Canadian fruit be prepared by the Department, to contain colored plates, and assist in the identification of varieties.

A motion asking that the Fruit Division be represented in the Department of Agriculture by a Commissioner was laid on the table by the Chairman, but its purpose was served, in expressing the unanimous views of the fruit men.

The convention concluded with a felicitous vote of thanks to the Minister, moved by Rev. Father Burke, President P. E. I. Fruit-growers' Association, and seconded by Martin Burrell, of British Columbia. The point was well made, that the conference not only bid fair to accomplish much of tangible benefit through its recommendations, but the good fellowship of all the delegates had promoted the ties between East and West, reconciled conflicting interests, and made for the betterment of national citizenship, as well as in the substantial advancement of Canadian horticulture.

Femiskaming District Full of Wild Fruits.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

As yet I have had very little experience with fruit-growing. Now, I put in about twenty-five apple and plum trees last summer, and about ninety currant plants, but cannot say yet how they will do. The country is full of small fruits, such as currants, gooseberries, cranberries, both high bush and low, any amount of raspberries, etc., and I see no reason why cultivated fruit will not do well here, but will be better able to say in another year.

C. CHAPMAN.

THE FARM BULLETIN.

Dr. Bell Manager Winnipeg Exhibition.

A press despatch from Winnipeg announces the appointment of Dr. A. W. Bell, of Toronto, as general manager of the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition. Dr. Bell's long experience as assistant manager of the Toronto Exhibition, under Mr. H. J. Hill and Dr. J. O. Orr, the present manager, will stand him in good stead in the responsible position to which he has been appointed, while his courteous manner and acquaintance with the requirements of live stock exhibitors, and of the farming community generally, will make him especially acceptable to that important class in the West. Dr. Bell succeeds Mr. F. W. Heubach, who, as manager of the Winnipeg Exhibition for many years, has done very satisfactory work in that capacity, and made a host of friends.

Chief of Poultry Division Resigns.

(Ottawa correspondence.)

The position of Chief of the Poultry Division of the Dominion Department of Agriculture will shortly be made vacant by the retirement of Mr. F. C. Elford, who has accepted the important post of Director of the Poultry Department at the Macdonald College at Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec. Mr. Elford began the duties of Chief of the Poultry Division on May 1st, 1904, and has been active and energetic in promoting the interests of poultrymen all over the Dominion. One of his chief aims has been to endeavor to produce a grade of fowl commercially valuable, both for table use and as layers. With a view to accomplishing this, he has been a strong advocate of the use of the trap nest as an aid to determining the productive capabilities of individual fowl, and thereby making a selection for the improvement of the breed.

Mr. Elford was born in Waterloo County in 1871, and moved with his parents to Holmesville, Huron County, in 1874. He attended the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph in 1891-92, and subsequently in 1894 and 1895. On his own farm he succeeded well in the two special lines of alfalfa and poultry. His support of Institute work and recognition as a poultry expert