

APPENDIX No. 5

Q. How about transportation?

A. We have equal freight rates to Winnipeg and lower rates to intermediate points, particularly to Alberta points; the apple box costs us five cents more than the apple box costs in Washington, our paper costs us fifty per cent more than in Washington, and our nails, etc., all cost us much more.

By Mr. Douglas:

Q. Are you certain about the cost of labour being 40 per cent more?

Mr. WINSLOW.—Yes.

A. It is certainly 25 per cent, and it runs up to 40 per cent.

Q. How do you explain that?

A. For several reasons; of course down there there are big cities for one thing.

Q. It strikes me you ought to import Chinamen into British Columbia?

A. Well, of course, many of us are Orientalists in that sense, but, of course, we dare not say so.

By Mr. Schaffner:

Q. You said you should get at your door \$1.25 to \$1.50 per box. Do you not think that is a little high, that is equal to the price of \$4 or \$4.50 in Ontario?

A. That is without taking into consideration the cost of the barrel.

By Mr. Douglas:

Q. There is not very much difference, a gentleman from Ontario said the other day that it cost him 45 cents for every barrel.

A. But that barrel holds how much? Three times as much.

By Hon. Mr. Burrell:

Q. Still if you could get \$1.15 to \$1.20 and were reasonably sure of it, you could get along all right.

Mr. DOUGLAS.—Would not they be making good money at that?

Hon. Mr. BURRELL.—Of course you must take into consideration that the orchards are young, there are not very many in full bearing and they would not get very much out of it, but there is no doubt that in another five or ten years there will be an enormous amount of fruit, and I think the Northwest people, like the rest of us, feel that if they can get it at a reasonable price, they would rather have it than the American fruit. But the difficulty is that the British Columbia growers are up against a very serious proposition, they have not reached the stage of production that the other fellow has, and although they are rapidly increasing their production the other fellow is increasing just as fast as we are, therefore the condition continues the same.

Mr. DOUGLAS.—I do not know how that suggestion to stop these people sending in their apples is going to work. Even a duty of 25 cents a box will not stop them from sending their fruit in.

Mr. FOGGO.—I have really not made a suggestion yet as to what should be done. I was coming to that. Speaking generally, however, it is not the province of the grower to suggest remedies.

By Mr. Schaffner:

Q. You want the fruit properly marked, also the grades?

A. We want the Fruit Marks Act more rigidly enforced against American fruit. We want the consignment prevented.

By Mr. Douglas:

Q. You cannot prevent a man sending his fruit in?

A. You can prevent it in the sense that he cannot dump his stuff in at slaughter prices. You can prevent it in the sense of having the fruit properly inspected, and