

## Nova Scotia Fruit Growers in Convention

Near the mouth of the Avon River, which carries its turbid waters to the tidal basin of Minas, stands the classic and bustling town of Windsor, the seat of the oldest university in the Maritime Provinces, King's College, which was founded in 1788, receiving its Royal charter from King George III in 1802. Thither the standstills of the N. S. Fruit Growers' Association from King's and Annapolis counties bent their way on Dec. 7th to infuse, if possible, a larger interest among the fruit growing farmers of Hants county.

The President, Mr. P. Innis, being absent through ill health, the Vice-President, Ralph S. Eaton, Kentville, presided over the meetings. In his opening address he referred to the disappointing fruit crop, in quantity and in quality, the probable export not being much more than 200,000 barrels, instead of 400,000 last year. The power spraying experiments of the Federal Government had not been as successful as desired. The Provincial Experimental Fruit Station asked for from the local Government had not yet been started. The federation of the two schools of agriculture and horticulture, which the association had taken the initiative in bringing about, had been nearly completed, and for short courses the new college would be opened on Feb. 1st, with Prof. Cummings, of Guelph, as president. Mr. Eaton, who had advocated their federation very strongly for five years, appealed for its commencement on a broader and more independent basis than was now anticipated by its affiliation with the Provincial Normal School, a mile away, where more than half the class work had to be taken up. He now referred to the proposed Macdonald College at Montreal, saying that if this college had one hundred times the patronage from Canada that Guelph had now, there would be sufficient farmers' sons in each province to fill a flourishing provincial institution.

Dr. Hannah, the newly appointed president of King's College, addressed the association the same evening and Mr. McNeill, the genial Chief of the Fruit Division, Ottawa, was heartily welcomed again by the association, as he rose to present "Some Pressing Needs of the Fruit Industry." Mr. B. W. Chipman, secretary of Agriculture, told among other things that at a banquet tendered Earl Grey in London previous to his departure for Canada, the finest apples there were from Nova Scotia.

### NOVA SCOTIA AND ONTARIO FRUIT

The morning session of the 8th was opened by Mr. W. H. Woodworth, of Berwick, in an address in "Conservation of Soil Moisture," followed by a short and pithy paper on the English markets by Assistant Fruit Inspector Fitch, who had recently been over the pond to gather up pointers on the fruit business. In the afternoon Mr. R. W. Starr, our veteran pomologist, who had acted as one of the judges at the Toronto Exhibition, gave "Some Impressions of Ontario Fruit and Fruit Growers." A number of varieties of apples, such as the Spy and Baldwin, seemed to develop rather more size in Ontario than in Nova Scotia, whereas this province could excel the Gravenstein, Ribstam, Blenheim, King and Nonpareil. The box packing in Ontario was, perhaps, better than ours, as they had been at the business longer, but our barrel packing is better.

### FRUIT INSURANCE

Capt. C. O. Allen, in an address on marine insurance, showed that he had succeeded in getting a policy of insur-

ance for the shippers that was superior to anything in force on the continent. Instead of insurance being collected only when total loss of apples occurred and instead of paying three cents per barrel premium, apples could now be insured at one cent per barrel in the most reliable company against total or partial loss from any cause whatsoever. This was a very decided advance in the grasp of the fruit growers in the business part of the shipping.

Thursday evening was to have been the ornamental session, when representatives from the Government and others were to have had their innings. The Attorney-General and Hon. Mr. Drysdale being absent, a very practical as well as pleasant hour was taken up by Dr. Fletcher, of Ottawa, who yearly receives an invitation to our gatherings and who from his easy, fluent address always leaves a pleasant impression. His subject was "Injurious Insects of the Season." Dr. J. B. Black, the newly elected member for Hants, in the Federal House, B. W. Chipman and G. H. Broom, Fruit Inspector, were the other speakers. After the regular program was over the Mayor of Windsor took the chair and a nice supper was served, which had been provided by the Windsor people.

### GOVERNMENT SPRAYING

On Friday morning Mr. John Donaldson showed by chart the results of the Government spraying in his orchard, intimating a gain of \$500 from an investment of \$80 paid to the Government at the rate of 5 cents per tree for each spraying. In other orchards the benefits from spraying had not been as marked. The work will probably be continued another year. Mr. McNeill gave a valuable talk on "Co-operation in Fruit Growing," showing its advantageous working in Ontario. Resolutions were passed asking the local Government to give immediate attention to the Experimental Orchard, and for a board of directors of twelve for the new agricultural college, having three representatives from the Fruit Growers' Association and three from the Farmers' Association of the province. As the farmers had really brought the college into existence it was felt that they should still have a voice in its control. They want the institution to start abreast of others as far as attendance goes, and not as the other colleges started thirty years ago.

The election of officers resulted in the appointment of the following:

Ralph S. Eaton, President; John Donaldson, Port William, Vice-President; S. W. Parker, Berwick, Secretary; and J. Howe Cox, Rev. Mr. Howe, Peter Innis, J. W. Bigelow and R. W. Starr as executive.

### NOVA SCOTIA.

#### The Fruit Exhibit at Amherst

The fruit exhibits at the Maritime Winter Fair while not large, showed that all three Maritime Provinces could produce apples of the highest quality. Six counties in Nova Scotia, six in New Brunswick and the three in P. E. Island sent exhibits.

At a gathering of the fruit growers present Alex. McNeill, Chief of Fruit Division, Ottawa, gave some excellent advice. He said that the colder portions of Nova Scotia, and all of New Brunswick, can make as much money in apple growing as the more favored sections of Canada, but the growers must conform to their surrounding conditions. They must select varieties that will grow to perfection in their district. The following varieties are well adapted to the districts mentioned: Fameuse, Weal-

thy, McIntosh Red and Baxter. Several other varieties would also be profitable, but it is a great mistake to multiply varieties. To secure buyers to come to a district, considerable quantities of one variety must be grown.

The object of the fruit grown must be to meet the export demand, for our home markets are small. In these colder districts the soft varieties above mentioned are the most profitable, as they can be shipped to foreign markets. The experience of some New Brunswick shippers this year shows that a profitable trade can be developed, and if fruit growers will give their trees proper care, they need not fear for a profitable disposal of their crop.

Thos. A. Peters gave a stirring address upon growing an apple orchard—well drained soil, thoroughly cultivated, healthy trees carefully set out 33 feet apart. The ground must be kept cultivated thoroughly around the trees each summer until the first of July, when clover should be sown, and allowed to grow, die down in the fall, and be plowed under in the following spring. Manure should be applied freely until the trees come into bearing.

W. S. Fraser spoke briefly upon the benefits of "rowing clover" which would gather nitrogen from the air and leave it in the soil. Every ton of timothy would take about \$7.00 worth of fertility from the soil, while every ton of clover grown and taken off would leave in the soil roots worth for fertilizer \$7.50.

At a gathering of representative fruit growers, presided over by Rev. A. E. Burke, a resolution urging the Dominion Minister of Agriculture to secure for the Horticultural Department at Ottawa specimens of the most up-to-date tools and equipment for orchard work, to be operated and reported on there, and shown in operation at the various horticultural shows, was unanimously passed, as was also another resolution requesting the convening of a Canadian council of horticulturists at Ottawa, to consider the whole question of Canadian fruit growing.

### New Brunswick Fruit Growers' Association

A number of New Brunswick fruit growers met at Amherst during the Winter Fair and organized a fruit growers' association for that province. The following provisional officers were elected:

President, J. C. Gilman, Fredericton; Vice-President, Geo. McAlpine, Cambridge; Sec.-Treas., W. D. Albright, Sussex.

Directors—John I. Steves, Hallowell; C. F. Rogers, Woodstock; Rev. Hunter Burt, Waweg; J. Edwin Carter, Bathurst; O. W. Wetmore, Clifton; Jas. Barnes, Buchouche; Beloni Violet, St. John; D. Lennox, Tobique River; W. B. Fawcett, Sackville; H. B. Grosvenor, Meductic; Alfred E. McAlpine, Cambridge; R. A. Snowball, Chatham; John Barbarie, Dalhousie; J. W. Stephenson, Upper Sheffield.

### New Brunswick Farmers and Dairy-men

The annual meeting of the Farmers' and Dairy-men's Association of New Brunswick will be held at Fredericton on January 25-27, 1905. Among those who will deliver addresses are: Hon. Mr. Harris, Prof. Shutt, F. W. Broderick, R. Robertson, S. Thompson, J. F. Tweeddale, B. M. Fawcett, Geo. E. Baxter, Dr. J. R. Tuck, Prof. Brittain, S. S. Dow, Harvey Mitchell, A. McNeill, C. G. Allen, J. W. Clark, F. J. Purdy and W. S. Blair.