

Mr. ORR, (Fruitland): I think the object of giving awards for fruit exhibits is to encourage growers to grow the very best fruit that they can grow. As far as Toronto Fair is concerned, I think the fruit exhibited should be strictly the produce of the party exhibiting. Probably that does not apply to counties, at the Toronto and London Fairs where we have people from all parts of the world, many from neighboring States, I think we ought to have the very best possible exhibit irrespective of who is the grower. Whether it would be desirable to have another class for exhibits of that kind I don't know, but I don't think we should hamper having the very best possible exhibit gathered from where you will, where so many people see the exhibit and see the products of our country.

Mr. BURRELL: I think Mr. Orr's objection is well taken. I only spoke because I think that if there is a stipulation of that kind, whether it is expressed in the way of requiring a declaration on the part of the exhibitor or not, it should be made more emphatic, because if a man is going to show what he does not grow when there is a rule against it, then he may just as well perjure himself right out by making a declaration, and that will keep any man who feels a little dubious about doing it; but I would have it right open or else have him sign a declaration, and I would make it clear. The thing should be stated either one way or the other. I think Mr. Orr's views are correct as far as Toronto is concerned.

THE PRESIDENT: I may point out that it does not prevent us from having an exhibit that will really show what can be done in Canada no matter where the fruit is grown, because there is a class at present open to Societies. It is a class we have been trying to encourage of late years. That of course enables them to gather the best specimens of fruit in their district, and consequently in that exhibit you have the best the land produces, while in the other class where there is individual competition you have what I think is only fair, the actual growth by the exhibitor. Of course I am your representative there, and if this meeting wishes that that clause should be done away with I could take means to have it done, but with the open classes that there are at present I don't think it would be advisable.

Mr. BURRELL: The only open classes now are for Societies?

THE PRESIDENT: That is all.

Mr. BURRELL: That has only led to two Societies, Oakville and Burlington, exhibiting, and that is over an immense range of fruits that no one man is likely to touch; and it is in the small selections where this thing is done. I think it should be thrown open—either no declaration at all wanted, or a declaration wanted, so as to leave no half way. Have no clause at all, or else have a clause expressly stating, and have a man sign it when he makes his entry.

A. McNEILL, (Walkerville): Would that it were possible to get back to the good old classic times when they used to compete for the glory of the thing. I would like to see the rules framed so as to throw more on the honor of the person exhibiting, and that less stress should be placed on the money question. It is not desirable even for the purpose of securing a good exhibit of fruit that this class of men should be encouraged.

We as Canadians have a reputation which I think without undue modesty we can claim, of being honest, and as far as the regulations can be framed to put down that kind of thing and secure honesty in that respect the better. I think the Toronto people have done well in putting a premium upon the exhibits of fruit from Horticultural Societies, and more stress should be laid upon that. Horticultural Societies should look to the educational value of these collections, and look upon it as part of their legitimate work to make the exhibits and to make them educative. Less stress should be laid upon the money side and more upon the credit of having a good exhibit for the individuals and the societies and the country in they which live.

Mr. ORR: When we get rich and can do as they did in the classic land, where the members of Parliament served without money, and it was all honor, and they could afford to live for honor, all right; but I am satisfied it would very seriously interfere with our exhibits at the fairs if the prizes were done away with. I know men that go out in their orchard, and up and down the country gathering fruits that no society would do,