

APPLE BARRELS.

The SECRETARY read a letter from S. C. Parker, Secretary of the Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' Association, and introduced to the notice of the meeting two barrels, one which has been used by apple shippers for years in Ontario, the other proposed by the Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' Association, which is a smaller one, and which has been adopted by the American Apple Shippers' Association, which has declared they will not use any other barrel in foreign shipment. The Nova Scotia shippers use the American barrel, because they ship it to Boston and thus compete with the American barrels, and last year they united with us in asking that it be made the legal barrel of the Dominion. Some of us in Grimsby have been using that barrel this year, expecting it was to be made a Dominion barrel. The dimensions of the barrel are: Staves, $28\frac{1}{2}$ inches long; head, $17\frac{1}{2}$ inches; circumference at bilge, 64 inches. This barrel holds 96.51 imperial quarts or 100 American quarts, while the flour barrel we have been using measures as follows: Staves, 30 inches long; head, 17 inches long; holds 103 imperial quarts.

E. D. SMITH: Can you tell us whether this barrel is the only legal barrel to be used by the United States?

The SECRETARY: I do not think the Government has ever established it, but the apple shippers are the controlling factor there.

E. D. SMITH: The Canadian barrel holds about two bushels and three pecks. If the stave manufacturers don't make any trouble about it and are willing to furnish these new sizes of staves at the same price as the old ones, I should say we should use the barrel that is used by the United States and in Nova Scotia.

A. H. PETTIT: I want this barrel, on the ground that it is a better barrel. When you pile up those barrels you will find that the bilge scarcely touches. This will rest more on the bilge. Now when you pile your barrels three or four in a car and they have to teeter through to the port of shipment, they have got to be put down in the boat and run that way across the ocean, I want to know which has the prospect of getting the most damaged; fruit in the shorter barrel that rests on the quarter hoops, or the one that rests on the bilge? What are we doing in all the branches of the fruit trade to-day? We are getting smaller packages. What for? Better condition of arrival. If this barrel will give us a better condition of arrival, that is what we want. I am inclined at the present time to use the smaller barrel. I believe we will find it to our advantage in the end to do so. I notice in the reports of the Nova Scotia barrel they have not the amount of slacks that the Ontario people have. Is this the remedy? I will move "That in the opinion of this meeting it is wise to adopt the uniform standard of barrel as used in Nova Scotia and the United States."

Mr. WHITNEY seconded the motion, which was carried.

Before the meeting adjourned the following committee of the Association was appointed to consider the sizes of fruit packages that should be adopted in order to secure uniformity throughout Ontario, namely: Grimsby, D. J. McKinnon, A. H. Pettit, L. Woolverton; Winona, E. D. Smith, M. Pettit, T. H. P. Carpenter; Burlington, Wm. Fisher; Fruitland, W. M. Orr; Beamsville, S. M. Culp; St. Catharines, W. H. Bunting, Robert Thompson.

The meeting then closed.

REPORT OF THE FRUIT EXHIBIT COMMITTEE, 1900.

Your Committee on Fruit Exhibits begs to make the following report:—The fruit exhibit this year was a creditable one and the specimens shown were, most of them, of good size and shape for the varieties they represented. The apples from Niagara Peninsula were not as well coloured as usual, owing to unfavourable weather, and while those from Eastern Ontario were better coloured they also were not as highly coloured as usual. A good collection of fruit adds greatly to the interest of the meeting, and it is hoped that this good practice will be kept up. This is a good opportunity of having the merits of new or little known fruits discussed and brought before the notice of the prominent fruit growers of Ontario.