

A. It was in Winnipeg, I think, that lot was sold; it was reported to us by the Union and was also reported by the Market-Commissioner, in fact that item I think was included in his report which has just been printed.

By Mr. Bowman:

Q. Do you happen to know what those peaches would be worth in Minneapolis if sold there?

A. I am sure I could not tell you.

By Hon. Mr. Burrell:

Q. There was a very heavy surplus of peaches in the west this year?

A. Yes.

By Mr. Thornton:

Q. Can you tell us about what 'Choice' sold for per box?

A. Well, the returns of prices, I should think that the average price—of course the returns have not come in yet to any great extent, although I have a lot of figures that have been sent to us by packing establishments on the other side, they are put down in a general way and they deal with the prices of all varieties—I should think that the wholesale average price of the American stuff would be about 60 cents, then you have to add the duty of 13 cents to that, and our average on all grades has been I should say this year between 80 and 90 cents.

Q. F. o. b. at your own shipping point? Is that the average of the Okanagan Co-operative Association for No. 1 and No. 2?

A. Yes.

By Mr. Douglas:

Q. Have not you got a big profit at that rate on each box which goes into the Territories and is sold to the dealer at \$1.50. The freight on a box of apples from Vernon to Edmonton is 38 cents—

A. 42 cents, isn't it, sir?

Q. No, 38 cents.

A. I am not familiar with the figures because they do not come up every day for consideration.

Q. On the other hand does not that resolve itself down to the great question of business; you have a certain article of fruit at Kelowna, and you know you have a market in the Prairie Provinces. Your Co-operative Union can extend its ramifications by having a dealer or agent who can sell that stuff, even if you have to establish depots for the sale of it in Calgary and Edmonton, you could get a good price, because the consumer is paying just as high for his apples this year as he has in any year?

A. That is not my information; speaking generally I think the price of soft fruits during the glutted market to the consumer in the Northwest has been materially reduced this year.

Q. That is not my own experience as to apples, it has not been materially reduced. Apples are retailed around \$2.00, \$2.25 per box for good stuff.

A. I wanted to say something more to you, gentlemen, about the marking of boxes and the inspection of American stuff that comes into our markets. With regard to the marking of boxes under the Act we have to mark our boxes 'No. 1' or 'No. 2' and we do not put another mark on it. The American competitor ships into our markets boxes branded in identically the same way as he disposes of or distributes them in his own market. That is, he marks his fruit, 'Extra Fancy', 'Fancy' or 'Choice'; we mark our fruit, as I said before, 'No. 1' or 'No. 2'. The American stuff is sent into our market in boxes branded on the other side with the Association's or Packer's brand, it is marked in large print and has stamped on it whatever