

Mr. RACE: This report we have received from Mr. Boulter seems to be very contradictory of a report we got two years ago from Chicago, which led us to believe that the Ontario fruit grower was in a very few years going to meet with very keen competition in the North-west and from British Columbia. According to Mr. Boulter we have nothing to fear at all from the competition likely to come from the Pacific Coast. Which of this reports are we to believe? If Mr. Boulter's paper is correct it is certainly encouraging to the Ontario fruit growers; but if the reports of two years ago that were given to us very largely by our own representatives in Chicago are correct, the apple of British Columbia is going to be a very strong competitor of the Ontario apple.

The SECRETARY: I think Mr. Pettit and Mr. Craig who are present will bear me out in saying that the beautiful pears and apples that were shown from British Columbia excelled any we had on exhibition at Chicago. It is very possible that in the parts Mr. Boulter has visited in British Columbia the apple does not succeed; but there must be some parts, though they may be very limited where it does grow to great perfection.

Prof. CRAIG: I was very much interested in Mr. Boulter's discussion, not only on general principles but on account of reference to the Experimental Farm—which, however, had nothing to do with the passing of the law restricting fruit which is infested by insects or fungi from going into British Columbia. We should consider first that British Columbia has a very diversified climate. You will find greater variations within shorter distances. On the lower part of our Experimental Farm at Agassiz we could not grow apples, but on the higher lands we could grow them to perfection, and we show you samples from there. A few days ago a gentleman at Port Huron sent me half a dozen varieties of apples grown on his farm, and I brought them along. In regard to insects, there is one thing that the fruit growers of British Columbia have not to contend with,—they have no codling moth in that province. You may just consider what that would be worth to you, and what you would do to get rid of it. I think they are justified in exercising every precaution possible to keep injurious insects out of the province. Neither have they any San Jose scale; and they are trying their best to keep their orchards clear from these pests, and they pay an inspector \$1,500 per year for that purpose. These specimens of apples I have here were grown by irrigation, and these are the districts where they are going to grow the finest fruit. In the coast regions they cannot produce apples of the finest quality, but in the interior regions where they have a much drier atmosphere and good soil and where they are able to irrigate, and also in other districts where they have just the amount of moisture with more cold, they can produce apples of fine quality and appearance.

Mr. CASTON: It seems as if the coast climate of British Columbia resembles very much the climate of Britain, and we do not find that they produce any long-keeping apples there.

Mr. RICE: But I must acknowledge to you to-day that I never saw a finer exhibit of apples than you are showing here; and in our market at Port Huron we have no apples this year; we have had to have our apples shipped in. We had some very fine, large, beautiful red apples, selling at \$1.75 per barrel. At the same time our buyers were begging for Greenings grown below Toronto somewhere—they did not know where, but on Canadian soil—and paying at wholesale \$3.25 per barrel—(Hear, hear). I never saw such Greenings anywhere in the world; and I thought then of what was said at one Canadian horticultural meeting,—“What will we do with the Rhode Island Greening? They are forced on to us; the tree men are making us grow it here in Canada, and it brings such a low price?” They decided that the only way was to refuse to buy it. What if you had refused to buy it when it brings such prices now?

Mr. A. H. PETTIT: I have never been to British Columbia to see the different parts where fruit is grown, but at the World's Fair we certainly had a beautiful exhibition of apples from that country of very large size, fine color and good quality. Yet, from what I could learn, I look upon that country as likely to be quite a market for Canadian apples; and why? Because their apples grow to enormous size, and are not of that keeping quality that we grow in the more northerly section of the country. The farther north you can grow an apple, if it is the home of that apple, the better keeping qualities

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