

later a letter fully explaining all the minister's reasons for the proposed change. The reasons to me, however, seemed mere excuses, and I think the press should not desist in its protest.

Mr. J. C. Gilman, Fredericton, N. B.: As a member of the New Brunswick Fruit Growers' Association I believe the fruit interests will not be served to the best advantage by being under the control of the dairy commissioner. Our fruit interests should have the best thought of some competent man instead of being served second handed.

Mr. George MacAlpine, Lower Gagetown, N. B.; In my opinion the fruit industry is only in the first stage of its growth, and its growing importance entitles it to as prominent a place as any other industry in the Dominion. I am in favor of having it stand on its own merits and not be subject to any other branch of agricultural work.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Mr. P. N. Pate, O'Leary Station, P.E.I.:

I am very much in favor of the fruit commissioner being independent of other agricultural work. In our small province I notice much more interest is being taken in fruit raising and many more orchards are being planted yearly.

QUEBEC SPEAKS UP.

Mr. O. M. Derby, Clarenceville, Que.. In view of the fact that our fruit industry has attained such proportions, and seems

destined to become one of our most important departments of agriculture, I consider it advisable we should have a separate commissioner for that division.

W. D. A. Ross, Secretary Fruit Growers' Association, Chatham, Ont.: The fruit interests ought to be worthy of a division by themselves. If the same assistance is given to the fruit interests of the Dominion as has been extended to the dairy interests it may become just as important a division. It has been kept too much in the background. This matter should be pushed.

"Fruit Growers sidetracked," is the way in which Mr. W. C. Webster, of Stony Creek, Ont., speaks of the matter. He goes on to say: "We very much regret that the Department of Agriculture has seen fit to unite the fruit growing industry with the dairy department. This has come as a great surprise to the fruit growers of this province. They have been looking to the Minister of Agriculture to accede to the unanimous request of the associations throughout the Dominion to put the management of the fruit bureau on an independent footing. The industry is of sufficient importance to have as a head a man who has an intimate knowledge of all the details of fruit growing. It is just as important to have a head of this bureau as to have a minister of agriculture. We feel as fruit representatives that we have been treated very unfairly and unjustly."

More Fruit Might Be Grown.—Fruit growers in the Niagara district are beginning to realize that heavy, clay soil, when well drained, is the best for pears, plums and grapes. There are thousands of acres of this soil in the Niagara district well adapted for fruit growing, which are now only worth about \$25 per acre. Much of this land in a few years will almost certainly be under cultivation for fruit.—(W. H. Bunting, St. Catharines, Ont.)

The Best Export Pear in this district is the Duchess on dwarf stalks. I planted 1,030 last spring. The Duchess is a fall pear, and ranks ahead of the Anjou and Beurre Bosc. The Bartlett is the leading summer variety, and of winter varieties the Josephine de Malines and Easter Beurre. This latter will keep until April, and has a flavor similar to that of the Duchess, but is very coarse in texture.—(A. W. Peart, Burlington, Ont.)