

knotty problems, and finally resulted, at the close of the convention, in the spirit of national pride finding a vent in the giving of hearty cheers for Canada and the fruit interests of the Dominion.

THE DELEGATES

While it might have been possible to have had a larger number of delegates in attendance, a gathering more representative of the fruit industry of the Dominion, and of its various subdivisions, could not have been convened. Every province was represented by its full number of delegates, there not being an absentee. The delegates in attendance were:

Ontario—Harold Jones, Maitland; W. H. Bunting, St. Catharines; Elmer Lick, Oshawa; F. G. Stewart, Homer; M. Pettit, Winona; A. W. Peart, Burlington; D. Johnson, Forest; A. E. Sherrington, Walkerton; W. D. A. Ross, Chatham; P. W. Hodgetts, Department of Agriculture; Prof. H. L. Hutt, O. A. C., Guelph; Linus Woolverton, Fruit Experiment Stations, Grimsby.

British Columbia—Jas. A. Grant, Victoria; J. C. Metcalfe, Hammond; W. J. Brandrith, Ladner; Martin Burrell, Grand Forks; R. M. Palmer, Department of Agriculture, Victoria.

Nova Scotia—Ralph Eaton, Kentville; R. W. Starr, Wolfville; G. C. Miller, Middleton; S. C. Parker, Berwick; B. W. Chipman, Department of Agriculture, Halifax; Prof. F. C. Sears, Agricultural College, Truro.

Quebec—G. Renaud, La Trappe; J. M. Fisk, Abbotsford; Robert Brodie, Westmount; R. W. Shepherd, Como (Montreal); N. E. Jack, Chateauguay Basin; J. C. Chapais, Department of Agriculture, St. Denis; Prof. S. Blair, Macdonald College, St. Anne de Bellevue.

New Brunswick—J. C. Gilman, Kingsclear; I. W. Stephenson, Sheffield; Thos. Peters, Department of Agriculture, Fredericton.

Prince Edward Island—Reverend A. E. Burke, Alberton; A. E. Dewar, Charlottetown; J. C. Ready, Department of Agriculture, Charlottetown.

Manitoba—David S. Manson, Winnipeg.

Saskatchewan—R. T. Goodfellow, Prince Albert.

Alberta—A. E. Clendennan, R. J. Hamilton.

In addition to the foregoing, who had been appointed by the various fruit growers' associations, departments of agriculture and agricultural colleges of the different provinces, the various commercial interests were well represented by such leading apple buyers and shippers as Messrs. E. D. Smith, M.P., of Winona, Ont.; R. J. Graham, of Belleville, Ont., and A. S. Chapin, of Toronto. The commission dealers were represented by Mr. G. W. Hunt, of Ottawa and Winnipeg, and by Mr. D. S. Manson,

representing the McPherson Produce Co. of Winnipeg. The barrel manufacturers were represented by Mr. J. Innes, of Chatham, and the canning interests by Mr. Robert Anderson, of Montreal. In addition to these parties, several members of Parliament were in attendance at several of the sessions. The presence of all these gentlemen made it possible for the various subjects to be discussed from all sides, and assisted greatly in the intelligent consideration of the various points raised.

Those who may have thought that the fruit interests in the different provinces are too widely divergent to ever be harmonized, had their fears dispelled as a result of the unanimous action taken by the conference on practically every point raised. Not a jarring note occurred. The delegates have scattered to their homes to spread the news that the interests of the fruit growers of the Dominion, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, are identical, and that in future national interests, in every case, must take precedence over those of local importance. The outcome of the future conferences that have been promised will be looked forward to with greater confidence.

OPENING SESSION

The conference was opened Tuesday morning by Mr. J. A. Ruddick, Dominion Dairy Commissioner, who is in charge also of the fruit division. After a few words of welcome, Mr. Ruddick introduced Hon. Sydney Fisher and asked him to preside. In accepting the chair, Mr. Fisher explained that while it might be unusual for the Minister of Agriculture to preside at such gatherings, he felt that the conference was going to be one of national importance, and that the best way he could take of gaining the views of the delegates was to preside at their meetings that he might the more closely follow the various discussions.

The first business taken up was the appointment of committees, which resulted as follows:

Resolutions, Messrs. Martin Burrell, M. Pettit, J. M. Fisk, G. C. Miller, A. E. Dewar.

Program, Messrs. W. H. Bunting, D. S. Manson, R. W. Starr, Rev. Father A. E. Burke, J. C. Metcalfe, and J. C. Gilman.

Credentials, Ralph S. Eaton, Robert Brodie, Harold Jones, W. J. Brandrith, and A. E. Dewar.

FRUIT STATISTICS

The first subject considered was statistics, which was handled most ably by Mr. A. W. Peart, of Burlington, who submitted an exhaustive report containing statistical information relating to almost all branches of the fruit industry in Canada. This report helped

to show the delegates the relative importance of the fruit interests in the different provinces. In submitting these figures, only a brief outline of which can be given in this report, Mr. Peart said:

"In these statistics an attempt is made to give some idea of the extent of the fruit industry in Canada and in the various provinces as well. The figures given are derived partly from the Dominion census of 1901, from the Dominion trade returns for 1904-1905, partly from the opinions of practical and well-informed fruit growers in Ontario, and partly from calculations made by myself from the census figures and other data. The need of some such statistics, both from a commercial and an academic standpoint, is apparent. No attempt has been made in these tables to boom the fruit industry. A just and seasonable presentation of the case, based on all the facts available, has been the constant aim. The inherent difficulties of such a task are obvious and while there are undoubtedly errors still, I believe that the figures here submitted are in the main reliable."

The report then went on to show that the year 1901 was a very short apple year, the bearing trees yielding scarcely two bushels each. Last year, 1905, was nearly the same. During the intervening years the crop was heavy, so that it is estimated that the annual average value of the apple crop in Canada during the five years, 1901-1905 inclusive, was \$6,984,819, on the basis of 25 cents per bushel, as the apples were picked from the trees.

Total fruit trees of all kinds in Canada, 1901=21,201,239. Adding 10 per cent. for increase since then on the basis of an increase of two per cent. per year (the estimated increase in Ontario), the number for 1905 would be 23,321,362. Total fruit trees in Ontario in 1901, 14,087,936. Add 10 per cent. equals 15,496,729 for 1905.

Total fruit trees in 1901: Quebec, 3,055,805; Nova Scotia, 2,294,780; New Brunswick, 761,834; Prince Edward Island, 360,060; British Columbia, 567,782; Manitoba, 63,637; North-West Territories, 9,405. Average annual value of apple crop these last five years estimated at \$6,984,819 (1901 to 1905 inclusive) on the basis of 25 cents per bushel as picked from the trees.

The total apple trees in Ontario in 1901 were placed at 9,541,619 and bushels at 13,631,264; Quebec, 2,256,752 trees and 2,025,113 bushels; Nova Scotia, 1,975,575 trees and 2,065,104 bushels; New Brunswick, 675,364 trees and 503,214 bushels; Prince Edward Island, 202,100 trees and 159,421 bushels; British Columbia, 391,644 trees and 240,012 bushels; Manitoba, 8,332 trees and 571 bushels; North-West Territories, 2,488 trees and 1,487 bushels.