

to clash with them. It might be desirable in many cases to combine the farmer's and fruit grower's institutes in one in some places, and provisions for this might also be made.

In order to keep the connection between the local and the provincial societies it would be well that provision be made for the attendance of the secretary of the latter, and the director for the agricultural division in which it is proposed to form the institute, at its formation, who would also take an interest in promoting the formation of such institutes in as many places as possible, and that the list of officers should be published in our annual report. Further, it might be desirable to submit to our secretary, copies of papers read at the local institutes, for publication in the annual report, if considered of sufficient value, and also notes of discussions, where of general interest.

All this would surely present a strong incentive for the formation of such societies, and the benefit gained by their connection with us would be clearly defined.

One thing, however, must not be overlooked, and that is the increased expense entailed upon us in carrying out these plans. There would be increased clerical work in the secretary's office, some additional printing of circulars, giving a list of lecturers of horticulture and the subjects on which they would be prepared to speak, and the expenses of the lecturers in attending the institutes. Possibly for this work the department would make the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association a grant, not to exceed a certain sum, say \$500 to begin with.

Compared with the farmers' institutes, the number of horticultural institutes would be very few indeed. Probably it would not be necessary to provide for the formation of more than one in each agricultural division, under the charge of the director of our Association for that division, who would be, ex-officio, a member of its executive committee, and form a direct link between it and the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association.

It was moved by the Secretary and seconded by Mr. Beadle, that the subject of the paper be referred to the Legislative Committee.

Mr. ALLAN.—The idea of the paper is a good one, if we could succeed in getting the horticulturists to attend such institutes, but I am afraid that if we approached the Legislature for a grant, we should be told that the objects we have in view could be accomplished by our sending representatives to the farmers' institutes. The general farmers of the country would not, I am afraid, be sufficiently interested to attend these horticultural institutes, while we should be most likely to find them at the farmers' institutes, and by that means have opportunities of bringing our ideas before them.

The SECRETARY.—I do not make this proposal with any intention of interfering with the farmers' institutes. In some parts of the country local fruit growers' associations, which had been formed, have become defunct owing to their having no connection with this Association, and no means of obtaining special speakers. I do not think that the Government would object to making some arrangements with our Association, for defraying the expense of sending lecturers to address these local fruit growers' institutes.

Mr. A. M. SMITH.—I think the Association has already provided by a resolution, which has never been rescinded, that any local horticultural society could become affiliated with us and entitled to receive our reports on payment of eighty cents a year.

Mr. CASTON.—I think such institutes as those proposed would be more valuable as experience meetings than for hearing lecturers, because it is not given to a lecturer to know everything, and the fruits he might recommend for cultivation might not be suitable for the particular district where spoke.

The SECRETARY.—It is nevertheless the fact that these local societies are constantly writing for lecturers to come and speak to them.

The motion, to refer the matter to the Legislative Committee was carried.