

past they have been making strong representations, even sending a delegation to Ottawa, and now he understood the Eastern growers, especially Ontario, which is nearer the market in the North-west, were in line with the idea of securing some adequate protection. He felt the Legislature should be prepared to fall in line with the movement, especially as they had the assurance from the growers that the price to the consumer would not be raised as a result of the increase of tariff on apples. If so, he could not see why there would be any objection at Ottawa. If the way was clear, there should not be much difficulty in adjusting the question. He thought now was the time to act. The industry has been passing through a period, in the past two years, which did not show the profits the growers were entitled to. Just now the cry all over was, to help the producer, to assist anything that would develop production from the land. Therefore the Legislature should strain a point in this question, and should support the resolution of the member for Yale.

Referring to the Fruit-growers' Association, he said it was a non-political body, very earnest, very anxious to promote their industry. The individual members came here from all parts of the Province at their own expense, though times were hard, and with practically unanimous voice they had adopted a statement similar to that in the resolution. He thought the condition of the fruit market was a strong case, a clear-cut situation, and there was no reason why the House should not strongly support the resolution. He suggested to Mr. Williams that he withdraw his amendment, and later bring it in as a substantive resolution, when, if he could show the House it was in the best interests of the industry, "I am the last man," said the Premier, "to stay the hand of the honourable member. Let us make a strong case of this question of the apple industry."

Sir Richard concluded by questioning if the member for Newcastle had not been guilty of gross neglect of the farmers' interests if he had never discovered the serious conditions he now complained of, until the member for Yale had brought in the resolution. If he was anxious to make a case on the matters contained in his amendment, let him bring it in separately, "and we will all back him up." As it was, he did not wish to see the main issue clouded when such strong pressure was being brought to bear from all quarters to secure the revision of the tariff on apples. He concluded with a word of praise for the excellent work done by the member for Yale in preparing the resolution, the preamble of which made the whole case so clear.

Dr. McGuires, Vancouver, objected to it as a recommendation for legislation. It might have the effect of increasing, rather than decreasing, the cost of living. In his opinion the real question was one of transportation.

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