

The Third Dominion Fruit Conference

In the report of the Dominion Fruit Conference published in the March issue of *THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST* the report, through an error in the making up of the forms, was broken off without explanation in the midst of discussion of the fruit census as given by Mr. W. W. Moore, Chief of the Markets Division, Ottawa.

The total number of fruit trees in 1901 was given as 21,128,197, and for 1911 as 20,812,556. The number of bearing trees in 1901 was 11,926,027, and in 1911, 12,794,357, a decrease of 14 per cent. The number of non-bearing trees reported was more encouraging as they were given as having been 6,202,170 in 1901, and as 8,018,199 in 1911, or an increase of 29 per cent. Nova Scotia and British Columbia showed large increases in the number of both bearing and non-bearing apple trees, while Ontario showed a heavy decrease in the number of bearing apple trees, as did also Quebec and New Brunswick.

Mr. Moore explained that while there had been a great increase in the planting of apple trees in the different provinces there had been a heavy decrease in the old bearing orchards planted many years ago in localities not well adapted to fruit growing. A number of the delegates expressed doubt in regard to the correctness of the figures, and claimed that they did not correspond with what they knew to be the case in portions at least of their respective provinces. Mr. Moore himself did not seem any too sure that it would be safe to rely on the correctness of the figures, but gave them for what they were worth.

Mr. A. W. Peart, of Burlington, who had furnished valuable information in regard

to the acreage and production of fruit in Canada at the last conference, gave some additional information as compiled by him recently from various Government and other sources. He estimated that the fruit interests of Canada represent an investment of \$78,621,800, and that the fruit crop of Canada each year yields the growers a return of 25 per cent., on the average, upon this investment. He placed the apple acreage at 252,657 acres, representing a capital value of \$50,531,400. Further mention of Mr. Peart's figures will be made later.

The balance of the Thursday afternoon session was devoted to a discussion of the recommendation and resolutions that had been forwarded by the various provincial associations, practically all of which were referred to the various committees for consideration. A feature of this session was the presence of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, Governor-General of Canada, who made a brief speech, and who remained to listen to a considerable portion of the discussion. After the conference the Duke was sent some fruit from each of the provinces as contained in the exhibit at the conference.

THE PRIME MINISTER SPOKE

At the Thursday evening session, addresses were given by the Right Hon. R. L. Borden, Premier of Canada, and by Hon. Mr. Burrell. Both speakers assured their hearers that the Dominion Government was anxious to do everything possible to promote the fruit interests of Canada as well as agriculture generally.

A valuable report on the fruit resources of Canada, as well as of the fruit possibilities of the different provinces, was present-

ed by Mr. W. H. Bunting of St. Catharines, who spent several months last year conducting a special inquiry into the fruit growing industry of the Dominion at the request of the Dominion Government. Mr. Bunting gave an outline of the conditions he found them in each province, and incidentally made numerous helpful suggestions. A much more complete report of his investigations is to be published later in bulletin form by the Government. Further reference to it will be made in *THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST*.

The balance of the Friday morning and afternoon sessions was devoted to the consideration and discussion of the various committee reports. These resulted in the passing of the resolutions already outlined and in the formation of the National Fruit Growers' Association. The conference was concluded by the passing of formal votes of thanks to the Government for calling the conference and to the Government officials who had helped to make it a success.

A standing vote of sympathy was extended to Mr. Clifford Jack, of Chateaugay Basin, Que., one of the delegates, who had been summoned home on account of the sudden death of his mother, Mrs. Annie L. Jack. The results of the transactions of the conference on the fruit interests of Canada will make their influence felt for many years to come.

The demand for information about the famous Rittenhouse school and garden, at Jordan Harbor, Ont., has led to the issuing of an extremely handsome booklet describing the work of the garden. It is printed on high-grade paper, profusely illustrated, and gives a most interesting description of the Rittenhouse Public School and Garden.

Cheap Roses

If you want Roses that will do anything at all then don't experiment with cheap slips and cuttings bought from so-called Nursery concerns, but buy two year old Canadian grown plants from reputable rose growers, who have raised them on their own nurseries and not imported them. Imported roses may be attractive and alluring, but imported Roses and Shrubs are by no means satisfactory.

The climate of France and Holland is quite different from ours and plants from these countries feel the change sorely. Roses and Shrubs offered at "Bargain Counter" rates have undoubtedly been imported from England, France or the Netherlands, and are expensive even at the lowest prices.

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