

3. That the Association should secure an expert in fruit packing and shipping, who would give information as to the packing, condition of fruit for shipment, and loading of cars, etc., at points to be determined upon.

4. That the Association should itself undertake the shipping or inspection of a car-load of fruit to Winnipeg at the commencement of the season; an accurate account to be kept of the condition of the fruit when shipped, the temperature, icing and handling the car in transit, and all other particulars of moment concerning it. That the fruit should be displayed in Winnipeg to the best advantage, and well advertised, with a view of demonstrating the superior quality of British Columbia fruit.

5. That a committee, consisting of three members together with the Minister of Agriculture, be appointed to superintend the carrying out of these suggestions.

6. This committee also proposes to take up the question of freight rates, express shipments and transportation generally, but requests that an expression of opinion be given as to the needs of the fruit growers in this respect.

7. This committee would also suggest that the Fruit Growers' Association should request the Horticultural Board to aid in an active and material manner toward the carrying out the suggestions herein contained, with regard to the recommendation of a man being sent to the North-West.

(Signed) R. M. PALMER,
G. H. HADWEN,
W. H. HAYWARD, *Sec.*,
TOM WILSON, *Pres.*

The following were appointed upon this committee:—The Hon. the Minister of Agriculture, W. H. Hayward, Hy. Kipp, and C. B. Harris.

DISCUSSION ON REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Clause 1.

Mr. E. Hutcherson—What is the meaning of this clause?

Mr. Palmer—It was thought that it would not be wise for the Association to take up the actual shipping of fruit; but that they might purchase a car-load at minimum price and keep track of this car on its way, and if necessary have hourly reports. This car would be placed in Winnipeg early in the season; and, if possible, on Main Street, and well advertised.

Mr. Moggridge—If a man is to be sent to the North-West at all, I do not see why he should not handle fruit, as it would not add to his expenses. He should be present to open all cars and make reports.

Mr. Wilson—I do not see how public money can be used for a private enterprise.

Mr. Palmer—The Minister of Agriculture expressed to me his wish that the \$1,000 voted to the Association should be expended in the interests of the Provincial fruit growers as a whole. He was not able to be on hand to-day, but would be pleased to meet the fruit growers as a whole at any time and discuss these matters with them.

Mr. Hutcherson—It seems to me the idea has got abroad that the Exchange is trying to corral this man. That is not our intention. Any fruit grower would be at liberty to make use of this man. What we really want is some one to adjust our claims. I do not mean the Fruit Exchange. The report practically carries out my suggestion of some weeks ago, that the Fruit Exchange should close down for the season, or arrange to ship in car-load lots and not by express, as that has proved impracticable, under existing charges, and successfully compete with car-load lots from the south. It seems rather strange that our fruit should have gone begging for a market, but nevertheless such was the fact; and so it was from Washington and Oregon. The housewives of the North-West have only so many sealers (*i. e.*, fruit jars), and these were chiefly supplied by the early fruit from California, at \$1.50 per crate; and, consequently, when our fruit arrived on the market their sealers were full and no more to be obtained. This could, in a measure, be prevented by the man appointed by the Association, going from store to store and arranging with them to wait for the British Columbia plums, which would be on later in the season, and at a much cheaper price. Of course retailers are anxious to get the fruit in as early as possible in order to be in a position to supply the trade. We have a gentleman with us to-day (Mr. Brandrith) who was in Winnipeg about the 17th of September, and will be able to corroborate my statements as to the condition of fruit markets at that date.

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