

MR. McCALLA: I might make this statement, with regard to the cost of producing, that it depends upon one's local conditions and upon the way in which things are estimated. I want to say that I heartily approve of what Mr. Delworth said with regard to the estimated cost to the farmer of teams and labor. We have to feed our teams in winter and on rainy days and on Sunday, and unless we can get a pretty good price for our teams when actually working, we shall go behind, and we could not afford to keep teams for very much less than the man in town. We must not expect to work ourselves for less than the hired man gets, so that we ought to charge up the full cost of labor in every case. We figure it out in St. Catharines that a 400 bushel crop of tomatoes would cost to grow and deliver between \$70 and \$75 per acre.

As far as the manure is concerned, I would not if I could, put 25 tons of manure on any soil in ordinary good condition, and then plant tomatoes in it, as I would get too much top. Fertilizers have received such hard treatment here that I want to give you a statement of actual facts. I had a piece of land that was in peaches for five years. It received some commercial fertilizer and wood ashes and no stable manure. Two crops of clover were plowed under. We pulled out the trees and put on twelve spreader loads of fresh manure to the acre, that would be twelve tons. I planted it to corn and followed the corn with potatoes, using no manure but applying 600 pounds to the acre of high grade home mixed fertilizer. After the potatoes I had a good crop of wheat; sowed clover with the wheat and when the clover was seven or eight inches high, I turned it under and planted peaches again, and between the peach trees I planted tomatoes. That land had no manure since 1905, and I grew this year, if we count the actual land occupied by the tomatoes and not allow anything for head lands and drive ways, on four acres, 695 bushels to the acre, and if we allow for head lands and driveways, I had 600 bushels. It is all right to say twenty tons to the acre on certain land, but I think commercial fertilizers are a good deal better and safer. Manure costs us about \$2 a ton put on the field.

A MEMBER: What do the farmers in your neighborhood value their land at?

W. J. McCALLA: \$150 an acre.

T. DELWORTH: Our land is so valuable that we cannot plow under clover. A great deal of the land used around here for market gardening is worth double what Mr. McCalla estimates his land at.

W. J. McCALLA: What will suit one locality will not do in another. The land on which I am growing tomatoes is worth from \$200 to \$250 an acre, and I would not have manure put on, if you drew it and put it on free. We plant tomatoes where we have grown musk-melons the previous season, and we have put on seven or eight tons to the acre for musk-melons.