This is just the season to get the most benefit from thinning fruits. apples that are left on the trees this dry weather the nearer marketable size will the remaining ones grow. The difference be-tween those thinned and not thinned is already apparent.

Montreal E. H. Wartman, Dominion Fruit Inspector

Montreal as a fruit distributing point shows wonderful activity at this season. On July 29, Aug. 2 and 5, 29 cars of California fruits were sold by the Montreal Fruit Auction Co. J. J. Callaghan, auctioneer, beats all records by selling eight cars of California fruits in three quarters of an hour. These 29 cars were sold within a week, aggregating in cash \$30,000. The California fruits nears plums peaches, programings and fruits, pears, plums, peaches, nectarines and grapes are particularly fine in quality and well packed. As the individual fruit is wrapped and closely packed in boxes and crates tends to its keeping quality, the percentage of wasty boxes is very small. When we try to supply our city wants and country orders a large stream has to continually come in to meet the emergency. Think of 56 cars of United States strawberries coming to our market before our own are ready to pick. When we add our banana trade and lemons, oranges and melons, the aggregate is very large.

Well, what about our own domestic fruits

this year? Cherries and raspberries are coming in large quantities. The quality has been very fine. Conditions have been so good in grading, fullness of baskets and boxes, and general honesty of packs, that they have caused a confidence in the minds of buyers, and fruit men here declare there has been a large and profitable volume of business all around. The apple crop on Island of

Montreal does not look too promising cr in the eastern townships either, where you hear the growers say, "I usually have 200 hear the growers say, "I usually have 200 bushels, but this year I will have to buy." Nevertheless, I am of the opinion that we will run far over the million mark for export in apples this year. It becomes all persons in the fruit trade of our Dominion to do his or her best in the building up of an ever increasing fruit trade of honest

Vancouver Island, B. C.

Small fruits are almost over, although a few loganberries are still being sold locally. The crop of small fruits has been an exceptionally good one, due to the unusually late

Sweet cherries are over. The sour cherry crop is only medium, but the fruit is of excrop is only medium, but the fruit is of exceptional size and quality. Nine-tenths of the cherry crop is being shipped to the north-west, through the Progress Fruit Packing Co. This Company is doing very good work and is securing from \$3.00 to \$3.50 per 24 pound crate of cherries, for the growers.

Plums and prunes give promise of a good Peach plums, such as Clyman and Peach plum, are being gathered now. The prune crop is also to be handled by the P. F. P. Co.

Apples are light in most districts, due Apples are light in most districts, due to a dry fall last year; consequently, the trees did not have vitality enough to set the fruit this spring Early apples such as the Yellow Transparent and Duchess, are already being sold locally. Pears give promise of being a record crop. The trees are heavily loaded with fine, large fruit. Bartlett's are especially good.

The hard winter, which did so much harm

to the orchards on the mainland, did very little harm here, due to the proximity of the ocean. A good average fruit crop is expected; also, as fruit is so scarce on the mainland, unusually high prices are assured.

Similkameen Valley, B. C. J. D. Harkness

Orchardists here await with much interest the proposed action of the Department of Agriculture in establishing an experimental farm or a series of experimental stations in British Columbia. Not only the growers themselves, but the department agent, who has been travelling through and examining the fruit valleys, is of the opinion that nothing short of a chain of stations will adequately meet the needs. It is found even now that expert horticulturists from the coast or the Fraser Valley who essay to address audiences in the in-terior find themselves at sea and their advice inapplicable, and vice versa. So radical are the differences of climate and other conditions even within short distances that it would be well to have at least half a dozen experimental stations, even if they were small, rather than one or two large farms. Also, a travelling instructor in irrigation would be a very useful functionary. The knowledge of most orchardists on the subject is very elementary, and their previous

with the exception of peaches and tender grapes, a fair crop of nearly every kind of fruit is assured. The summer's growth has served to show that the effects of last interior activates the property and add were not winter's entirely abnormal cold were not so great as was feared at first. Such a winter had not occurred in a lifetime, and may not occur in another lifetime, but it has served at least one useful purposse, in showing what varieties are hardiest, and in show-

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