

The president, Mr. D. W. Buchanan, in a short address at the opening session referred to the prosperous condition of the society, which had nearly quadrupled its membership during the past year, increasing from about 60 to 200 members. This result he attributed to increased attention throughout the country to horticultural work, to the increase in population and general advancement of the country, and to the energy with which the society had been conducted during the year. They had passed the experimental stage in growing many kinds of fruits, he said, and in some cases some of the small fruits were being grown on a large scale in a commercial way. Some large shipments of local grown strawberries had been received in Winnipeg during the year. The chief difficulty in growing small fruits was the scarcity of help and high wages. Land around Winnipeg was getting too dear for ordinary farm purposes, and it would be necessary to encourage horticulture in order to make their lands profitable. In tree fruits progress was being made, and many apple trees were coming into bearing in the Red River valley and some other sections of the country, so that the problem of growing tree-fruits was also being solved.

The secretary in presenting the annual report, reviewed the work of the society during the year. He referred to the free distribution of plants to the members, which helped to increase the membership. The society also published a list of trees, shrubs, fruits, etc., showing what varieties are hardiest and best adapted to growing in this country, and it, too, was sent to the members.

The treasurer's report showed that a surplus remained on hand notwithstanding the heavy expenditures.

At a public meeting on the evening of the 14th, Dr. Fletcher, of Ottawa, gave a very interesting address on nature study, illustrating his remarks with limelight views. President Creelman, of the Ontario Agricultural College, spoke on the need of more practical education in the public schools.


The remaining sessions were devoted to discussions of questions pertaining to practical horticulture. One of the most interesting papers was that given by Norman M. Ross, who has charge of the Dominion Government forestry work in the west. Mr. Ross said that trees could be grown for fuel, fencing, etc., very profitably in the prairie provinces, and recommended the box elder, white elm, green ash, cottonwood, basswood and the native spruce and tamarac.

Dr. Sheekey, of Pilot Mound, Man., discussed the shrubs and flowers best suited to this country. For hedges he preferred the common lilac, as it holds its foliage late in the fall. A paper on potato-growing in the Winnipeg district was read by W. H. Tomalin. He spoke of the potato blight, which was unknown here until lately, but which was bad last year. So far no spraying had been done in Manitoba. Dr. S. J. Thompson, of St. Charles, Man., explained his method of growing small fruits, in which he has been very successful, with currants, gooseberries and raspberries.

A. McLeod, of Morden, Man., said that at first he did not succeed in growing tree fruits, but after planting wind breaks and shelter belts, he had been able to grow apples, crabs and plums. W. G. Matthews, of Macleod, Alta., spoke on horticulture in Southern Alberta. He had been able to grow many trees without artificial watering.

A paper on roses and flowers was given by Mrs. J. B. Hodgson, of Foxwarren, Man., and addresses were delivered by J. B. Merrill, J. D. Carwell, Alf. Andrews, James T. Drysdale and Robert Atkin.

Pickers and packers should be required to obtain a certificate before they are allowed to begin operations. Some of the work is done so poorly that one would think crazy men had been at it.—(P. J. Carey, Dominion Fruit Inspector, Toronto.



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New Brunswick Fruit Growers are Progressing

THE second annual convention of the New Brunswick Fruit Growers' Association was held at Fredericton on Jan. 25. A committee comprising Messrs. W. W. Hubbard, Henry Wilmot and W. A. McIntosh, appointed to consider the suggested topics for discussion at the Dominion Fruit Growers' Conference, submitted the following report, which was adopted by the association:

1. We suggest that the work already started by the fruit division of the Department of Agriculture in regard to statistics and fruit crop reports, should be encouraged, and that fruit-growers everywhere should furnish statistics and crop prospects within their reach promptly when requested by the division.

2. That an extension of cold storage and refrigerator car service is urgently needed, and that the rates of the express companies operating in Canada should be brought under the supervision of the Railway Commission. We believe that the rates charged by the express companies seriously interfere with the development of our fruit interests.

3. In addition to recommending that there be a uniform barrel for Canada, we would suggest that more expeditious means than exist, be provided to prevent the use of barrels and other fruit packages below the legal size. Our federal department should be urged, in every way, to safeguard and develop our export trade, and to make conditions as easy as possible for trade within the Dominion.

4. It is regrettable that many of our best growers consider that to be sure of getting pure fruit jams and jellies they must import them from English manufacturers, and we would suggest that the Department of Inland Revenue be asked to give this matter their special attention.

5. Fruit growers would be in a safer position if such control were exercised over nurseries, that their owners, before they could legally collect money for trees sold, should be compelled to hold a certificate from a competent inspector stating that their stock was free from dangerous scales, insects, or diseases.

6. We would suggest that the following definition for number 2 fruit be embodied in the Fruit Marks Act:—"No. 2 Apples shall consist of well-grown specimens of fair size, color and shape, and not less than 85 per cent. free from scab, worm holes and other defects, and packed in the same careful manner as provided for No. 1 fruit."

7. We would recommend that our delegates examine into the moves that have been made in the direction of horticultural education in the different countries of the world, and be in a position to assist in making such suggestions as may be in the best interests of Canadian horticulture.

8. Your committee would recommend that our delegates give this subject thorough investigation and consideration, and make such

recommendations as will, in their judgment, make our fruit exhibitions more educational to both producer and consumer, more encouraging to the growth of the best commercial varieties adapted to the district, and in every possible way calculated to encourage the growth and disposal of our fruits.

For 1906 officers were elected as follows: pres., John C. Gilman, Kingsclear; v.-pres., I. W. Stephenson, Sheffield; treas., Henry Wilmot, Sunbury; sec., T. A. Peters, Fredericton; directors, J. W. Clark, Sunbury; J. F. Tilley, Carleton; William McIntosh, St. John; John Ferguson, York; S. B. Hatheway, York; George McAlpine, Queens; Mr. Richardson, Charlotte. Pres. Gilman and Mr. Isaac W. Stephenson, of Sheffield, were appointed delegates to the Dominion Conference.

Among the speakers were Mr. W. T. Macoun, Ottawa; Prof. F. C. Sears, Truro, and Mr. W. A. McIntosh, of St. John, N.B., the leading entomologist of the maritime provinces. A very creditable display of apples was made, and before the close of the sessions a motion to have a fruit exhibit at the next annual meeting was carried.

Mr. Macoun and Prof. Sears judged the fruit exhibit, the following being the prize winners of the varieties named: J. C. Gilman, Fredericton—Fameuse, McIntosh Red, Alexander, Milding; Geo. McAlpine, Gagetown—Wolf River, Bishop Pippin, Ontario, Golden Russet, King of Tompkins, Northern Spy, Gano, Ben Davis; Henry Wilmot, Lincoln—Wealthy and a Seedling; S. B. Hatheway—Canada Red; Rev. T. Hunter Boyd—Stark; collection of 10 varieties—Geo. McAlpine, Gagetown, and J. C. Gilman, Fredericton; collection of five varieties—Geo. McAlpine and J. C. Gilman.

Pres. John C. Gilman opened the meeting with an admirable address, in which he referred to the extreme cold of the winter of 1905, which pointed out to fruit growers the great advantage of planting hardy varieties. The midsummer drought, on the other hand, showed the vital need of a generous supply of plant food and sufficient moisture in the soil to maintain a steady growth. After impressing on the growers the importance of having only the best fruit for the markets, the president said that the best way to increase the percentage of number one fruit was to start at the beginning and get the right varieties. Then prepare the ground, as any good farmer would, for a crop he expected to yield a good return; cultivate and keep up the fertility; fight the insect pests; have a good spraying equipment, and use it at the right time and often enough to answer the purpose; nip back and prune off all unnecessary growth; give the air and sunshine a chance to help you; use proper ladders, baskets, barrels and boxes; grade to comply with the Fruit Marks Act; haul on spring wagons, and see that every operation is done with care.