

eastern Ontario, where the early apple is so widely grown, the crop ripens "all in a heap," as it were, and must be disposed of with due haste before it deteriorates. The grower must content himself with prices which make the handling of such varieties unprofitable. Hundreds of bushels have

been sold for as low as 25 cents per bushel simply because a quick sale was imperative. Two or three weeks later similar apples sold at 35 to 50 cents per bushel. The employment of some method of cold storage would have made the delaying of sale possible, and resulted in great gain to the producer.

Actual Co-operation

THE value of cooperation is recognized by the members of the Kootenay Fruit Growers' Association, of Nelson, B. C., which was formed last year and has accomplished excellent work. The objects of the association, as announced in a circular which Secretary Thos. Morley has sent to the fruit growers in the Nelson district are as follows: To encourage the growing of choice fruits and vegetables; to secure to the fruit growers and gardeners of the Kootenay district, who are members of the association, all possible advantages in the marketing of their produce; to create a demand for the produce of the association; to use their combined efforts for the prevention of plant diseases and insect pests; to prevent the importation of infected nursery stock; to collect and distribute information of value to its members; to secure by co-operation the lowest prices on fertilizers, crates, boxes and such other supplies as may be required; to secure lower freight rates, and to expedite the delivery of the produce of its members.

Early this season the secretary issued a circular to the members of the association and enclosed forms which they were to return to him showing the number of berry crates, collapsable berry boxes, plum and cherry baskets and crates, rhubarb crates, pear and apple boxes, etc., they might desire. As soon as the secretary had secured a list from all the members of the supplies they wished, he was able to purchase the supplies more cheaply by getting them in

large quantities. Much of the fruit of the association is sold in Winnipeg and the towns and cities of the central west.

Value of Wood Ashes

PROF. F. C. SEARS, WOLFVILLE, N. S.

How heavily should wood ashes be applied in orchards? Will they hurt a growing cover crop, or should they be applied just before turning under? If so, would they not be too late to benefit the existing crop?—(A. J. L., Ontario.

Wood ashes are so variable that it is difficult to answer this question. Analysis of ordinary Canadian hardwood ashes shows about 6.15 per cent. potash and 1.90 per cent. phosphoric acid, while soft wood ashes run little more than half that amount. This, too, is for ashes which have been well taken care of. Ashes as bought on the market run all the way from the percentage given to nothing. I should consider one ton per acre a good dressing. I should not apply them to growing cover crops. Application in the spring before plowing is better. They would benefit that season's crop because much of their fertilizing constituent is immediately soluble.

We Cannot Grow Pears or European plums in this district. I have tried Flemish Beauty and Keiffer, two of the hardiest varieties of pears, and both froze out. In plums I have tried Moore's Arctic, Lombard, Smith's Orleans, Abundance, and many other hardy varieties, but they met the same fate as the pears. I never yet had a good crop of either.—(Dr. McCallum, Smith's Falls, Ont.