

The Canadian Horticulturist

The Leading Horticultural Magazine in the Dominion.

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THE EARLY VEGETABLE MARKET.

The announcement, in this issue, that the growers in South Essex who forced vegetables for the early markets have secured satisfactory prices is an important one. It indicates that this line of garden work is fast leaving the experimental stage if it has not already done so.

A few growers in the province, not only in South Essex but in the Niagara district as well, have been raising vegetables in this way for a number of years with profit to themselves and satisfaction to their customers. Why should not more do so? For years Canada has imported quantities of vegetables, during the early summer, from the southern states for which, in many cases, high and even fancy prices have been paid. It has now been demonstrated that it is possible to mature these vegetables in Ontario in time to take advantage of these favorable markets. Our Ontario growers, being so much nearer the consuming centers in Canada, should ultimately, by good management, capture the greater part of this trade.

There seems little fear that the demand for these vegetables will be over supplied. The portions of the province suited for this occupation are so restricted the work can never be conducted on a very large scale. The high prices that have been paid in the past may decline. On the other hand, the consumption is certain to increase, which will tend to place the business on a more permanent basis.

A word of warning, just here, may be in or-

der. The fact that a few have done well this year, raising these early vegetables, is no guarantee that any person can do so. Before it will be possible for growers to make a profit at this work they must secure suitable locations, which in itself is a difficult matter, and have a thorough knowledge of the business. A slight lack of experience or a little carelessness on the part of a grower early in the season may result in the loss of his entire crop. Any rush into this line of work is certain to mean disaster to many.

THE FRUIT MARKS ACT.

It is announced that in future the Fruit Marks Act is to be more rigidly enforced. If a few packages in a shipment of fruit are found to be improperly graded the whole shipment is to be thoroughly inspected. The time is ripe for the taking of such a step. The act has now been long enough in force to leave no room for any excuse on the part of shippers that they are not acquainted with its provisions.

It seems there are a number of packers who still resort to dishonest methods in the packing of their fruit in the hope that at the most only a small part of their shipments will be detained by the inspectors. A few sharp lessons to these parties should be a benefit to the whole trade. The numerous testimonials from British commission dealers that have been published in *The Horticulturist* recently concerning the benefits that have resulted from this act, indicate that a still better enforcement of its provisions, if not too rigid, will not be likely to cause much damage to our fruit trade.

The season for buying bulbs is now near, and horticultural societies will as usual be writing to different firms for quotations on the different varieties. Why not patronize our Canadian firms, and more especially those who use *The Canadian Horticulturist* as an advertising medium? Too many secretaries place their orders with the man who quotes the lowest price, be he a Canadian or one of our cousins from across the line. Canadian purchasers often do not show enough loyalty to Canadian sellers. If the best quality is wanted a fair price must be paid, and Canadian seedsmen will supply bulbs at a reasonable price. Place your orders with those who advertise in this paper and let them know you saw their advertisement in our columns. They all sell goods that are genuine.

Some complaint is being made, and apparently with more or less reason, in regard to the change made this year in the time of placing the exhibits of cut flowers in the floral department of the Industrial Exhibition. In former years the time for placing these flowers has been 11 a. m. Tuesday. This has been changed to 11 a. m. Monday. The change seems likely to make it difficult for outside exhibitors to compete. If growers living at a