

Using Canadian Products

By R. M. Winslow, Provincial Horticulturist.

The people of Canada, as purchasers and consumers, have a patriotic and practical duty with respect to Canadian products. Our producers, fruit growers included, are doing their share in increased production. Their efforts, in considerable measure, will be in vain, unless the consumer does his part and co-operates in the great movement by demanding Canadian products.

In nothing is this more true than in respect to fruits. This country has an important fruit industry, and our fruits are of high quality. The industry is not nearly as large and as prosperous as it should be, however, because consumers, by failing to insist on Canadian fruit, are paying each year from \$3,000,000 to \$4,000,000 for imported fruits, of kinds produced in Canada. The following table shows the quantities, and value, (including duty paid, but not including freight or distributing costs) imported in 1913 and 1914:

		1913	
		Quantity	Value, Incl. Duty but not Freight
Blackberries, gooseberries, raspberries and strawberries	6,939,470 lbs		\$ 712,789.00
Cherries	971,619 lbs		122,470.38
Currants	30,071 lbs		2,726.42
Peaches	14,579,147 lbs		476,390.33
Plums	151,650 bu		313,074.80
Quinces, apricots, pears and nectarines, etc.	13,445,837 lbs		441,601.90
Apples	320,325 bbls		957,174.75
			\$3,026,227.58
Grapes	6,247,527 lbs		505,743.29
			\$3,531,970.87
		1914	
		Quantity	Value, Incl. Duty but not Freight
Blackberries, gooseberries, raspberries and strawberries	7,104,745 lbs		\$ 816,955.80
Cherries	1,084,797 lbs		142,092.94
Currants	19,214 lbs		1,825.28
Peaches	12,137,209 lbs		474,854.50
Plums	123,531 bu		353,619.10
Quinces, apricots, pears and nectarines, etc.	11,040,871 lbs		502,137.51
Apples	330,907 bbls		1,236,664.80
			\$3,508,149.93
Grapes	7,712,447 lbs		644,326.24
			\$4,152,476.17

All of these fruits are produced in large quantities in Canada. It rests entirely with the consumers to diminish the imports and establish a bigger outlet for our fruit growers, by preferring the home-grown products.

Any thing which reduces imports is just as effective in restoring a proper balance to Canada's foreign trade as an increase in exports. It is impracticable, with respect to most fruits, to develop a considerable export trade, and the consumers' co-operation is essential in enlarging the domestic market for Canadian fruits.

The producer of fruit can be guided by a few general rules:

1. The grading, packing, grade-marks, and the sizes of fruit packages, in Canada are governed by a Dominion law, enforced by the fruit inspection service. The requirements of the law are very generally observed by fruit growers. In consequence, the consumer has the maximum of protection in buying Canadian fruit.

2. Canadian summer fruits are usually later in maturing than imported fruits, owing to our cooler season. When southern fruits of any kind are on sale, Canadian fruits will follow shortly.

3. The retailer usually knows in advance value when Canadian fruits are to be had.

4. The retailer likes to meet the customers' wishes.

5. It will particularly help if consumers will wait for Canadian-grown preserving fruits.

6. Canada produces each year far more apples than are imported. It is sound, practical patriotism to demand always Canadian apples.

7. Look on the package for the address of the grower. Insist that it be CANADIAN.

8. The year 1916 promises large crops of fruit of all kinds in Canada. It is a good year for a good resolution—to buy Canadian fruit.

Sheep-Breeders Want Better Prices.

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the co-operative handling of wool, which, he writes, "is certainly a move in the right direction."

Mr. H. F. Arkell, assistant livestock commissioner, Ottawa, writes expressing his pleasure that the V. I. F. A. is planning to take advantage of the assistance offered by the livestock branch in affording the stock-breeders and farmers of Vancouver Island an opportunity to market their wool next season.

He feels that, from the information he has received, it will warrant sending the V. I. F. A. an officer of the branch to assist in organizing a wool growers' association, and also a wool grader when the wool is centralized and ready for classification. An officer of the sheep and goat division will be on the coast soon and will call on the V. I. F. A. and give what assistance he can.

As a result of correspondence between Commissioner Cuthbert, of the Victoria and Island Development Association, and the federal government in regard to obtaining sheep and Angora goats for breeding purposes on Vancouver Island, assurances have been received that the government will send experts to assist the farmers in buying animals, provided the expense is arranged for on the island. Commissioner Cuthbert is confident the industry could be established there and would ultimately prove a most important one, especially in conjunction with the woolen manufacturing industry, to establish which the association has done much preliminary work.

In order to encourage the growing of wool, it is likely that a new department, in which prizes will be offered for wool in the fleece, will be initiated by the Vancouver Exhibition Association this year. This step was taken into consideration upon the reading of a letter from Mr. John Bright, live stock commissioner at Ottawa, at a recent meeting. The commissioner suggested that this would tend to encourage the production of wool, and would be appreciated by breeders. He stated that he would be willing to place at the disposal of the association an expert wool man to judge the fleeces.

THE SHORTHORN AS A DUAL-PURPOSE BREED,

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American Interest Increasing.

On the American continent interest in the dual-purpose character of the Shorthorn is increasing. Many of the experiment stations have small herds of which the milk records are kept. These animals have official yields averaging 6,000 lbs. per year. The milk contains from 3.6 to over four per cent fat, and in color and size of fat globules ranks next to the Channel Island breeds, between them and the Holstein and Ayrshires.

A movement is on foot in both the United States and Canada for the taking of official records of performance at the milk pail. The Dairy Shorthorn Breeders' Association of America was organized in 1910, and the interest is spreading annually.

At the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904 the Shorthorns competed against Jerseys, Holsteins, and Brown Swiss. Twenty-four cows averaged 4,152 lbs. of milk, and 153 lbs. of fat in 120 days.

Some very creditable records have been made by breeders. The private records of a herd in Pennsylvania show an average for 38 cows of 9,031 lbs. of milk per year, and for 52 cows and heifers of 8,515 lbs. This herd has produced the champion dairy Shorthorn of the world, Rose of Glenside, whose record for one year is 18,075 3-4 lbs. of milk, and 625 lbs. of butter fat.

Recently the Ontario government imported 12 dairy Shorthorns from England. While these are far from the extreme dairy type, they have produced remarkably well so far, several giving over 1,000 gallons in the year. The western provinces of the Dominion—Alberta in particular—bought a large number of dual-purpose Shorthorns in Ontario, almost buying up some herds outright. Thus the merits of the Shorthorn as a dual-purpose breed are being recognized officially.

The growing scarcity of good beef creates a need which only the Shorthorn can fill. The good old Shorthorn cow has shown that she can fill the pail besides, but she is not the cow for the specializing dairyman. She is the cow for the general farmer who wishes to produce both beef and dairy product and has the requisite fodder and facilities. Such farmers are demanding pedigreed animals to improve their stock. It rests with the breeders to provide these animals of true dual-purpose type, sacrificing nothing of constitution, but endeavoring to bring the average milk production of cows up to at least 7,000 lbs. annually, and retaining the straight-topped, level fleshed character with the gay carriage and gait so dear to the heart of every lover of Shorthorns. But the man who wants milk, and only milk, had best leave the Shorthorn cow alone.

Mr. R. C. Abbott who opened a Markets Commissioner's office in Vancouver last year, and who since that time has secured a large amount of data dealing with marketing problems on the coast as well as the most suitable products for the coast markets and the way to place them on the market to the best advantage, has been holding a series of meetings on the lower mainland under the auspices of the Farmers' Institutes in order that this information may be placed before the growers.