

tant to Canadian fruit-growers to know that probably the tariff has not been giving them as full protection as they expected. New York importers of foreign fruit for a long time defrauded the U. S. Customs by declaring a big percentage of rotten fruit, which was non-dutiable. The authorities, when advised by California growers of this infringement, overcame the difficulty by levying duty on a consignment as sampled by the cases presented for sale by the importers. Naturally, samples would not be exhibited with too great a percentage of rot, and thus the U. S. Customs saved from 10 to 20 per cent. of its revenue from this source, and gave the home-growers full protection.

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I see the Weekly Fruit-grower—our anti-reciprocity friend—has repeated. This time it is grapes, which it says sold last season in New York State at 4 cents per pound. Even if they were Delawares, the best price to the growers around here for Delawares last season was about 3 cents per pound. However, I believe this must have been an exceptional price. The same paper which they quote from, in another issue, says that, in the Chautauqua grape belt, last year's grape crop sold for a fraction under 10 cents per 8-pound basket, season average. This was owing not to any lack of demand, but to a lack of organization for proper distribution, as "the people of the markets stood ready to pay 20 cents per basket for grapes in near-by markets, and 25 cents in farther-away markets." W. R. D.

Fruit prospects generally throughout Canada are reported favorable by A. McNeill, Chief of the Fruit Division, Ottawa. Co-operative Associations are on the increase, and orchard-renting companies are likely to work their own extinction, by showing farmers how much money is to be made out of neglected orchards.

## APIARY.

### Oxford Co. Beekeepers.

The Oxford County (Ont.) Beekeepers' Association held a convention in the Town of Drumbo on Saturday, May 25th. The morning session was largely taken up by individual reports from the practical beekeepers present, as to the successful wintering of their bees and the prospects of the honey crop for this year. At the afternoon session, W. B. Angle, County Inspector, gave a talk and demonstration on wax-rendering, emphasizing the necessity of gathering up and disposing of all old combs as a preventive of disease, and the advantage of making all such into beeswax, so as to dispose of it with profit, using the Sibbald wax-press as a basis for his remarks on the general principles of wax-gathering. This was followed by a discussion on the practicability of such a press for the average beekeeper.

J. Alpaugh gave a practical talk on the outdoor wintering of bees in boxes, packing four colonies in a box.

Morley Pettit, Provincial Apiarist, then gave an address on inspection of apiaries, and insisted that, while the Government inspectors could do much towards detecting and stamping out disease among the bees in Ontario, their work should be supplemented by the earnest efforts of individual beekeepers, so as to keep their own bees in health and good working order. In short, each beekeeper should become his own inspector, and so be able to keep close watch of his apiary. As to the student-inspectors, he claimed it was somewhat a matter of economy, as their time was not worth as much as that of the older man who had a business to leave, and their special training along those lines made them just as competent for the work. Besides, being strangers in the community, they had no cause for either fear or favor.

The Question Drawer was conducted by the president, Wm. Benglass, who made it very interesting.

## THE FARM BULLETIN.

### York County Notes.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Prospects for a good crop of apples this year if the weather is favorable. Apples and pears are heavily loaded with fruit, and the early apples are white and sweet. The early apples are of good quality, and are just coming into market. This is a good sign for the apple growers of this county. The early apples are of good quality, and are just coming into market. This is a good sign for the apple growers of this county. The early apples are of good quality, and are just coming into market. This is a good sign for the apple growers of this county.

There are only a few more days left for the early apples to be sold. The early apples are of good quality, and are just coming into market. This is a good sign for the apple growers of this county.

rest of them will get their roots in. Continued rain, the worst experienced for years, has flooded the land, making it impossible to put a horse over it, and then making it hard and "sad." With the land so compact and wet, a day's sun puts a crust on it that mangels could hardly get through if they were in the ground. Little or no corn has been planted, and, from present indications, none will be put in until early in June. C. H. R.

### Nova Scotia Agricultural Associates.

The following senior students, term of 1911-1912, have been awarded the Associate Diploma of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College. Their marks are given on a basis of a maximum of 100: O. Schafteitlin, Canning, King's Co., N. S., 79.75; H. S. Cunningham, Tatamagouche, Colchester Co., N. S., 78.79; Guy Denton, Rossway, Digby Co., N. S., 76.60; C. A. Crooker, South Brookfield, Queen's Co., N. S., 74.04; Cyril Henry, Kingston, Jamaica, 73.82; C. M. Dickie, Kentville, King's Co., N. S., 73.66; Vernon B. Durling, Lawrencetown, Annapolis Co., N. S., 69.42; C. A. Brown, Glasgow, Scotland, 67.53; C. E. Chute, Waterville, King's Co., N. S., 65.95; J. E. Campbell, Truro, N. S., 65.62; A. C. Shipton, Moschelle, Annapolis Co., N. S., 64.35; H. A. Johnson, Newton Mills, Colchester, N. S., 63.44; A. C. Christie, Valley Station, Colchester Co., N. S., 62.82; Wm. M. Chisholm, Loch Lomond, Richmond Co., N. S., 59.99; Malcolm A. Stuart, Belle River, P. E. I., 56.48; Myron Johnson, Newton Mills, Colchester Co., N. S., 55.51; E. D. Colpitts, Truro, N. S., 53.55; D. M. Moore, Shubenacadie, Hants Co., N. S., 52.05; W. R. Churchill, Yarmouth, N. S., 48.96; W. V. Smythe, Waterville, King's Co., N. S., 51.86; Alexander Macdonald, West Merigomish, Pictou Co., N. S., 75.97 (Note—Did not take classes in Organic Chemistry and Qualitative Analysis, but will receive diploma when equivalent work is passed up at any recognized institution); C. C. Chapelle, Amherst, Cumberland Co., N. S., 52.31 (Note—Will receive diploma on passing supplementary examinations in Chemistry, Bacteriology, Botany and Zoology).

### The High Cost of Living.

The recent increase of approximately 5 cents a pound on the retail price of meats has re-awakened the old discussion regarding the cause of the high cost of living, according to Professor Alfred Vivian, Acting Dean of the College of Agriculture, Ohio State University. "It has become the fashion to attribute the increase in the expense of food materials to the farmer who produces them," says Professor Vivian. "There is a popular notion in the city that the farmer rolls in wealth, and it may be a matter of surprise to many to know that the average earnings of the Ohio farmer is under \$350 per year. It is only the unusual farmer who makes more than a moderate living, just as it is the unusual city man who makes more than a bare existence. The fact is that the price of produce raised by the farmer is a little higher than it was ten years ago, while the price to the consumer has very materially increased. Of every dollar paid by the consumer for farm produce, the farmer receives only 35 cents. In other words, 65 per cent. of the cost of food consists of intermediate charges between producer and consumer. The consumer himself is largely responsible for the increase in price," continues Prof. Vivian. "It is not so very many years ago that the housewife went to the store and carried her purchases home in a basket. Now she orders over the telephone, and has her purchases sent out in a delivery wagon or automobile. It is not unusual for the automobile to travel a mile to deliver a 5-cent loaf of bread, and the expense of maintaining this delivery system is necessarily paid by the consumer. One used to be content to buy his oatmeal and wheat grits in bulk, now he must have his breakfast foods in fancy packages, the package costing more than the contents. Formerly, one went to the grocery with a pitcher for a pint of oysters; now they come home in fancy paper or tin containers. All of these things may be sanitary, but at the same time they cost money, and the consumer pays the bill. At the same time, none of this increase in price goes to the producer. One constantly hears about the increase in price of milk, but the complainant does not realize that the increased cost by modern city milk inspection has caused the farmer to go back to the kind of milk he made twenty years ago, they could get it for a much lower price as they then paid. It is the city milkmen who do not get more than a few cents for their milk, and the farmer who produces it gets a system that requires an enormous amount of money to the consumer equal to the price paid to the producer."

### A New Method for Potato Planting

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Inadvertently I hit upon what is, as far as I know, a new method of planting potatoes. A tough sod was plowed last fall, and this spring was well worked with the disk and common harrow. Then came the rain (it seems to rain every other day this spring), and as this soil packs easily, it had to be worked all over again. By this time I thought I had the sod well worked up, so much so that I thought I would try plowing in the tubers. The ground turned up pretty rough, however, chunks of sod unexpectedly making their appearance, so I decided, after plowing in a few rows, to resort to the old-fashioned hoe. I had noticed, however, when disking the ground in the usual manner (i. e., by overlapping one-half), that the disks left quite a deep ridge at every lap, and, on measuring, I found these ridges to be about 30 to 36 inches apart, the width of the disks being six feet. As the ridge also was decidedly deeper than a hole usually made with a hoe, I decided to plant the potato sections along these ridges, about one foot apart. The plan seemed to work very well, especially as the furrow, being very narrow and loose, the potatoes stayed just where they were dropped, without rolling about; consequently, they could be dropped far more easily and quickly than when a hoe or plow is used. In this way, two men can easily plant and cover one acre in about eight hours. The rows can be easily kept straight by driving the team so as to keep the tongue almost directly over the last line of disked ground. If the soil is deep and friable throughout, the potatoes can be harrowed in by crossing the land, but in this case the disks must be worked around a broad land, as, in plowing, so as to get the earth which is piled up beside the furrow all on one side for the harrow to draw in. We, however, covered the potatoes with a hoe, a very easy job, as the earth was always just on the edge of the furrow, and very friable. In fact, the potatoes could be easily covered deep by giving the soil a gentle push with the foot. They could also be easily covered with a plow, if you have someone to drive the horses, which I had not. If harrowed in, two or three acres a day could be planted by two men, or a man and a boy smart enough to drop potatoes. We tried the harrows, but it did not work quite so well as the hoe, as the ground was hard in places, leaving a rather shallow furrow, and the furrow was ridged in alternate sides. We planted the potato sections about ten inches apart, which would naturally take longer than if put at a greater distance. The rows were about 30 inches apart, although we could easily have made them 36 inches. C. L.

Middlesex Co., Ont.

### The Monteith Demonstration Farm.

A Toronto daily recently reported that the demonstration farm at Monteith, Ont., was to be placed under the control of the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph. We are informed that it is not the intention of the Minister of Agriculture to give any of the work in connection with this farm to the O. A. C. C. F. Bailey, the Assistant Deputy Minister, has, since he entered the Department, had direct management of the farm, and C. A. Galbraith, B. S. A., District Representative at New Liskeard, has been appointed director, with a farm foreman who acts under his instructions. Experiments are being conducted with varieties of grain and roots suitable for New Ontario, and the management is planning to supply settlers with seed. Flax is being grown and fertilizers tested. Potatoes are being made a feature. Underdrainage is to be tried on a ten-acre field. This will be watched closely, as there is a general impression that it is impossible to drain the major portion of New Ontario land. At present, about 125 acres of the farm is cleared, and the farm work is being pushed, with a view to obtaining much valuable information.

### Prof. Blair Goes to Nova Scotia.

W. S. Blair, Professor of Horticulture at Macdonald College, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec, has been appointed superintendent of Kentville Fruit Station, at Kentville, Nova Scotia, and has also been made Maritime Horticulturist. Prof. Blair is an expert horticulturist, and knows the conditions in the Maritime Provinces better than most men, having been born at Onslow, Nova Scotia, in 1873, educated at Truro and Wolfville, N. S., and at Sackville, N. B. He held the position of Horticulturist at the Experimental Farm, Nappan, N. S., from 1896 to 1905, when he was appointed assistant Professor of Horticulture at Macdonald College, from which he rose to Professor in 1909, a position which he has ably filled until his present appointment. Prof. Blair takes up his new work July the first, and the fruit men of the Eastern Provinces are to be congratulated for getting such an efficient and capable man to look after their interests.