

APIARY.

Responsibility of Bee-owners.

In the Divisional Court, Toronto, on September 24th, judgment was given by Mulock, C. J.; Anglin, J., and Clute, J., in an appeal to set aside a verdict and judgment for \$400 damages and costs, in an action for loss of a team of horses and personal injuries to plaintiff through being attacked by a swarm of bees. Defendant was the owner of a large number of swarms of bees in the vicinity of plaintiff's field, in Norfolk Co., Ont., where the latter was harvesting and a swarm alighted on him and his horses. Defendant contended that there was no evidence of that. Held, that the doctrine of scienter or "notice of mischievous propensities" of the bees had no application to this case, nor could the absence of negligence in the sense pressed upon the court relieve defendant of liability. Defendant placed a very large number of hives of bees within a hundred feet of plaintiff's land, and, in the course of their ordinary flight between the hives and plaintiff's field of buckwheat, they would pass directly over plaintiff's intervening field of oats, where it was necessary for plaintiff to be for the purpose of harvesting the same. The right of a person to enjoy and deal with his own property as he chooses is controlled by his duty to so use it as not to affect injuriously the rights of others, and, in this case, it was a pure question of fact whether defendant collected on his land such an unreasonably large number of bees, or placed them in such a position thereon as to interfere with the reasonable enjoyment of plaintiff's land. The reasonable deduction from the findings of the jury is that the bees, because of their numbers and position on defendant's land, were dangerous to plaintiff, and also that defendant had reason so to believe. It was immaterial whether or not defendant regarded the bees as dangerous. If he was making an unreasonable use of his premises, and injury resulted therefrom to plaintiff, he is liable. The court dismissed the appeal with costs, which, in substance, means that, while the apiarist may keep bees, he is responsible as their owner for damages done by them.

GARDEN & ORCHARD.

Points for Apple-growers.

At the International Apple-shippers' Conference last month, the box, as an apple package, was discussed in a paper by Mr. Williamson, who said that, for home consumption, the barrel is preferable to the box, except for apples packed in the far West. The box has been recognized as the package for fancy fruit, and boxed apples have been synonymous with good quality, until last season, when some parts of Colorado, Texas and New Mexico, trading upon the reputation of the box, had packed in boxes apples that should never have been sent to market at all. He predicted that in this and future years the boxed apples will pay the penalty. The barrel is a much better package for bad fruit, the box being a poor package for the cheat. This year, owing to the large crop and exceptional fine quality, he believed, reports the Fruit-grower, there was no place for No. 2 apples, and suggested that only No. 1 fruit should be packed. The percentage of No. 1 apples is larger than it has ever been before, and inferior fruit should be left to the evaporators, who have had no fruit for several years.

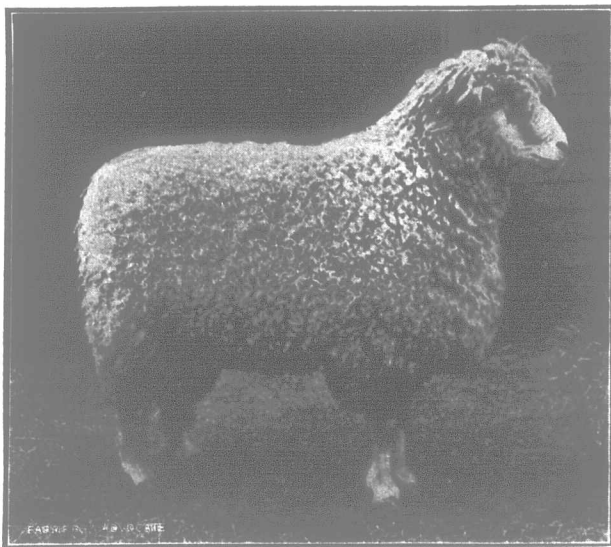
A discussion of the size of apple boxes brought out a difference of opinion. N. G. Gibson, of Chicago, favored a box 11½ by 11½ by 18½ inches, inside measurement. Mr. R. J. Graham, of Ontario, favored the standard Canadian box, 16 by 11 by 20 inches. Mr. Graham favored the box as an apple package, and believed that a more general use of the box would result in increased consumption of apples.

Mr. Rae, of New York, said that boxed apples have been in demand in New York, because there is a certain high-class trade which will pay any price for good fruit, and the Western fruit has filled this demand, simply because the Western growers are more careful in packing their fruit. He did not believe there are any apples raised in the East fit to put into boxes. As for No. 2 apples, there is a place for them in New York City, for the vast population on the East Side seek this grade of fruit. Not over five per cent. of the population of New York City have room for a barrel or even a box of apples, but they must buy their fruit by the quart or by the half dozen.

The statement of Mr. Rae that no good apples are grown in the East brought forth a protest from many persons present, who contended that apples of the highest quality are produced in that

section, worthy of being packed in boxes or in any other style of package desired.

George D. Paine read a paper on "Buying Apples When the Trees are in Blossom," in which he spoke against the reckless speculation in apples which has characterized certain seasons. In conclusion, he said: "I will close by calling your attention very briefly to a matter which has no relation whatever to the subject assigned to me, and that is that thousands and thousands of barrels of fine apples are injured and damaged materially by being bruised, as the result of the apple-pickers using bags instead of baskets, in picking the apples from the trees. I strongly urge all apple-buyers to protest against and to



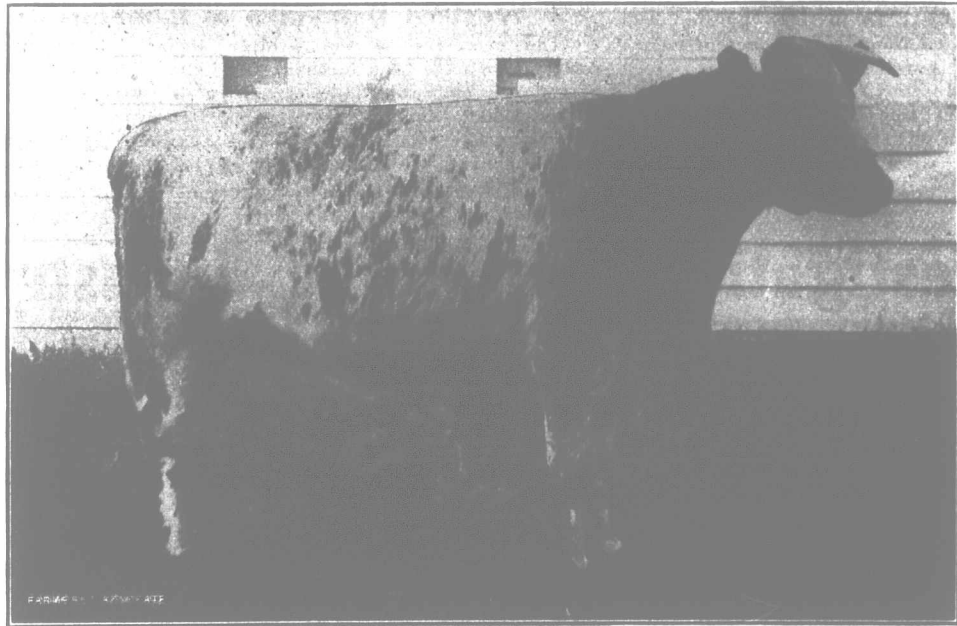
Cotswold Yearling Ram.

Winner of first and grand champion at Michigan State Fair, Detroit, 1906. Also first and champion, Western Fair, London. Bred and owned by T. Hardy Shore & Sons, Glanworth, Ont.

fight to the fullest extent this pernicious custom of the growers allowing their pickers to pick the apples from the trees into bags slung over the pickers' shoulders."

The matter of grading apples came up in a paper which was sent by Prof. John Craig, secretary of the American Pomological Society. He urged the adoption of a law for the United States similar to the one in effect in Canada, in regard to the inspection of export fruit. He believed the growers wanted to know just what constitutes apples of a certain grade, and suggested the appointment of a committee from the American Pomological Society. This motion was opposed by certain members, but finally a resolution was adopted, as follows:

"Resolved, that a committee of three be appointed to act with a similar committee of the



Cadbull's Rose.

Two-year-old Shorthorn heifer. Sire Baron Abbotsford. Bred by J. & G. Young, Fearn, North Britain. Imported in 1906 and owned by H. J. Davis, Woodstock, Ont. To be sold at his auction sale, Oct. 24th, as advt.

American Pomological Society and the American Apple-growers' Congress, for the purpose of preparing standard descriptive definitions which shall cover the grades of apples now well known to the American and European trade."

A further resolution, favoring the Government inspection of apples for export, brought forth an interesting discussion. Some favored compulsory inspection, while others wanted this inspection to be left optional with the shippers. A resolution favoring optional inspection was finally adopted.

Mr. A. McNeil, Chief of the Fruit Division, of Ottawa, addressed the convention on the workings of the inspection law, with recent amendments. He stated the amendment fixing the grades would be strictly enforced this year. He found the dealers had been the best friends of the law.

L. K. Sutton, of Columbus, Ohio, read a paper on commercial varieties of apples, and placed Ben Davis at the head of the list as a money-maker.

Atlantic City was selected as the next place of meeting.

The San Jose Scale.

At the present there is no greater menace to fruit-growing in Indiana than the San Jose scale (pronounced San Ho-zay). The scale has already been reported from about half the counties of the State, and there are doubtless many infested localities where its presence is yet unrecognized. The rapid and alarming spread of this pest, together with the great variety of plants upon which it feeds, makes its eradication a matter in which every fruit-grower and nurseryman must be vitally interested.

Appearance.—The presence of the scale may be first detected by the general sickly and unthrifty appearance of the affected trees. Upon a closer examination, the bark may be seen to be coated with a rough, ashy-gray deposit. Upon the young and tender growth of the apple and pear, and upon the fruit of these trees, the scale causes bright-red discolorations about an eighth of an inch in diameter. At this time of year the scale on the fruit is very conspicuous.

The gray coating on the limbs is due to the continuous layer of insect bodies, each one about the size of a pinhead, and each intent upon sucking the juice from the living tissue of the plant.

Life-history.—The winter is usually passed in a half-grown condition. When the weather gets warm in the spring the immature scales begin to grow, and during the latter part of May or early June the young commence to appear. The females bear the young alive, and six or eight are born daily for several weeks. In about five weeks the first born begin to reproduce. The rapidity with which this insidious pest spreads is not to be wondered at when it is realized that a single pair, in a single season, have progeny to the number of a thousand million. For about a day after birth, the young, which are a sulphur-yellow color, and barely visible to the naked eye, crawl about looking for a favorable spot for beginning operations. During this stage they may get up on the feet of birds or upon larger insects, and are readily transported to hitherto uninfested localities. By the end of twenty-four hours the young have become located, and the scale begins to form over their backs. This is at first pure white, but later becomes gray or black. Reproduction continues throughout the summer, and is most active during September.

Remedies.—Remedial measures, in the shape of dilute whale-oil soap sprays, may be taken during the summer against the larvae for the purpose of holding the scale in check, but it is to the more caustic washes, which require to be applied when the tree is dormant, that we must look for its eradication.

The best and cheapest of these is the lime-sulphur wash, and is made as follows: By using at first a small quantity of water, mix 15 pounds flowers of sulphur into a thin paste. Slake 20 pounds clean stone lime in about 10 gallons of hot water. While boiling violently from the slaking, stir in the sulphur. Then add 15 gallons more of hot water, and boil for one hour. Dilute to 50 gallons, and apply while warm. In badly-infested orchards two applications are recommended.

one in fall after the leaves have dropped, another in spring just before the buds open. Be sure to cover thoroughly every part of the tree above ground. The lime-sulphur wash, in addition to its effectiveness against the scale, is a valuable fungicide, and the spring spraying will replace one application of Bordeaux mixture. The secret of success in its use is thoroughness in putting it on.

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