

larger than all the other exported products of the Province combined, which finds its way into the pockets of the inhabitants and does not serve to enrich a few stockholders as is the case with so many other industries. One new and most encouraging feature of this industry is that the first car-load of apples has been shipped from Pictou county to London and realized the highest market prices, and every county in Nova Scotia should be exporting apples as their most profitable industry. Enough fruit has been grown in certain sections of each county to prove that they are just as capable of producing apples for export as the three western counties.

The world's crop of apples in 1898 was seventy-five per cent. less than in 1896, and the government returns give the apple crop of the United States for 1898 at twenty-three millions barrels against sixty-five millions barrels in 1896, and it is estimated that they require forty millions barrels annually for home consumption. The plum crop was very abundant in localities where the trees were carefully cultivated and is estimated at 20,000 to 30,000 bushels, but prices in most cases barely paid expenses, and only those who grew, packed and marketed carefully made a profit. Pears and small fruits were an average crop and fairly profitable. Experience has proved that the hardy, long keeping varieties of apples are the most profitable fruit product of Nova Scotia, and we should give this our attention.

INSECTS.

Destructive insects have been so completely destroyed by the intelligent use of spraying and other methods that our fruits of all kinds have been of unusually good quality, and every successful fruit grower is fully realizing the value of a scientific knowledge in his business. The much dreaded San Jose Scale has not yet been discovered in Nova Scotia, although Professor Sears has had several specimens sent him which were supposed to be infected. Every municipality where fruit is grown should at once be prepared to carry into effect the law passed by the Nova Scotia Legislature last year for its destruction, as we have reliable information that several large nurseries in Ontario are badly infected with it, and every effort should be made to prevent its introduction in Nova Scotia, especially as a large number of fruit trees