

The Canadian Horticulturist

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FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATIONS AND OF THE ONT-
ARIO VEGETABLE GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

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6. Articles and Illustrations for publication will be thankfully received by the editor.

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Since the subscription price of The Canadian Horticulturist was reduced from \$1.00 to 60 cents a year, the circulation has grown rapidly. The following is a sworn statement of the net paid circulation of The Canadian Horticulturist for the year ending with Dec., 1907. The figures given are exclusive of sample and spoiled copies and of papers sent to advertisers. Some months, including the sample copies, from 10,000 to 12,000 copies of The Canadian Horticulturist are mailed to people known to be interested in the growing of fruit, flowers or vegetables.

Circulation Statement

January, 1907.....4,947	January, 1908.....7,650
February, 1907.....5,520	February, 1908.....7,824
March, 1907.....6,380	March, 1908.....8,056
April, 1907.....6,460	April, 1908.....8,250
May, 1907.....6,620	May, 1908.....8,573
June, 1907.....6,780	June, 1908.....8,840
July, 1907.....6,920	July, 1908.....9,015
August, 1907.....6,880	August, 1908.....9,070
September, 1907.....7,080	September, 1908.....9,121
October, 1907.....7,210	
November, 1907.....7,257	
December, 1907.....7,500	

Total for the year, 79,525

Average each issue in 1907, 6,627

Sworn detailed statements will be mailed upon application.

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EDITORIAL

BRITISH COLUMBIA

The comparatively new fruit growing province of British Columbia can teach eastern growers many pointers on growing and selling fruit. This fact is recognized not only by enthusiasts in that province but also by eastern growers who have visited British Columbia. Highest honors have been taken by British Columbia fruit wherever it has been shown in competition. The growers have adopted at the outset modern practices in growing and modern methods in marketing. They have taken advantage of all the experiences of California and other Western States and of the older fruit growing provinces and are applying them to local conditions and improving upon them. It might be said almost that they have started at the top of the ladder. With this advantage combined with the fact that nature has richly endowed the province with soil and climate that scarcely can be duplicated elsewhere in the world, the growers of British Columbia are fortunate.

It would be folly to imagine that mistakes have not been made and will not be made. Many persons have gone into the business without any knowledge of the principles and the practise of fruit culture. In attempting to apply up-to-date methods without a thorough knowledge of the simpler and just as necessary minor practices, some have been and more are apt to be disappointed. There is opportunity for educational work on the part of the older growers and of the Government. Many persons also have bought land, through misrepresentation on the part of fraudulent land companies (many of them are not in this class), that is little or no value for anything. In spite of these things, British Columbia is becoming famous for her fruits. Eastern growers will have to keep moving to hold their own.

SOME GRAFTING METHODS

In these columns many references have been made to the practices of agents of certain American nursery firms. Recently our attention was drawn to a troop of agents, operating around Aylmer and St. Thomas, Ontario, who claim to be connected with a Michigan firm, which we fail to trace in the National Nurseryman's Directory. They are offering all kinds of absurd inducements, which include a four-year guarantee and a verbal agreement to trim the trees every year for four years. They are approaching farmers with bottles of prepared fruit, and also a bunch of root-grafts, which they use to demonstrate the inferior practices of the Canadian nurserymen. If they drop across a farmer who knows nothing about root grafting, (and there are many of them), they try to convince him, that they have a method in Michigan, of grafting apple trees and other stock, that is known only to themselves, and which cannot fail to result in strong thrifty trees, which will grow ahead of any stock, propagated under Canadian systems.

Canadian nurserymen, who propagate their apple trees by grafting, use exactly the same methods as these Yankee people, only perhaps it is done a little bit better. It may not be amiss to point out to our readers, who do not know, the method followed by Canadian concerns. The strongest of the young stocks, that have either been grown at home or imported, are kept in cool cellars during the winter, until about the beginning of January, when the grafting takes place in these cool cellars.

Whip or tongue-grafting is the method usually employed. The only advantage one nurseryman may have over another is;—that he uses a whole root for his graft, and discards the first and second cuts. By the first and second cuts, we mean, long tap or finger roots, that are cut from the stock, when the grafter is trimming his roots, and these same roots that are cut off are sometimes used by nurserymen and sometimes discarded. There is but little advantage in using the whole root, and there is no reason why the strong root trimmings should not be used, if they are thrifty enough to take a scion. Our leading nurserymen make a practice of grafting entirely on the whole root.

It is plain to anyone, who knows the first thing about grafting, that the United States agents referred to are inventing some new scheme, to gull the poor farmers again. We take the opportunity of warning our readers against them and their methods.

FRUIT MEN IN PARLIAMENT

More horticulturists should be in Parliament and in our Legislative Assemblies. There is need for men who know something about fruit growing and kindred pursuits. The enacting of legislation that has to do with the progress of our fruit industry requires the support of men acquainted with the business.

It is with pleasure, therefore, that we learn of the nomination of Mr. Martin Burrell to contest the Yale-Cariboo constituency in the next Dominion election. Apart from politics (and we do not know the party that he supports), Mr. Burrell is eminently fitted for a place in Parliament, no matter to which side of politics he belongs. His long experience as a fruit grower, the excellent work that he did at the Dominion Fruit Conference in 1906, the manner in which he performed his duties as representative for British Columbia at the fruit shows of England and the great interest that he takes in the development of the fruit industry of Canada, make him highly deserving of the confidence of the electors. Furthermore, the retirement of Mr. E. D. Smith, M. P., the Conservative member for South Wentworth, Ontario, and the fact that Mr. A. A. Wright, M. P., the Liberal member for South Renfrew, will not be a candidate at the next election, both of whom have done valuable work in the interests of our fruit industry, demand the election of one or more men to continue the work.

A COURSE IN FLORICULTURE

The short course in horticulture that was held at the Ontario Agricultural College last January proved to be a commendable feature. Its chief interest was for fruit growers and good work was done. As we understand that the program for the course next winter is now in course of preparation, we would suggest that a course in floriculture also be established. The commercial flower growers of the province feel that their branch of horticulture has not received the attention of the Ontario Agricultural College that its importance warrants. The industry is developing rapidly. To keep abreast with its progress and its demands, florists must keep in touch with all that is known about the business and with all that can be discovered. From whence can such information better be disseminated than from the Ontario Agricultural College? It is supposed to be the fountain head of knowledge in horticulture as well as other branches of agriculture. Much good work has been done by the institu-