

HORTICULTURE

Notice to Fruit Shippers

J. A. Rathbun, Cold Storage Commissioner
Ottawa

On August 7th a circular was sent from this office to the leading fruit growers and shippers, and to the press as well, stating that the entire space of one cold storage chamber had been engaged on the steamers "Ontario" and "Sicilian," sailing from Montreal to London, on August 22nd and 29th respectively, and that the space in these chambers would be available for shipments of early apples or other tender fruits, at the regular rate of freight (30 shillings per ton measurement of 40 cubic feet) payable to the steamship companies in the usual manner.

As the response to this notice has been very encouraging, I beg to announce that I have contracted with the agents of the Thomson Line for one chamber on the S. S. "Huron," sailing from Montreal for London on September 5th. Shipments for this steamer should reach Montreal not later than the morning of September 24th, and intending shippers should apply to this office for space without delay, stating the number and size of the packages to be shipped, so that a proper estimate of the space required may be made.

Quebec Fruit Meetings

The Quebec Pomological Society held meetings at Hemmingford, on August 12, and at Covey Hill on August 13th.

After the opening remarks by the president, Mr. Robert Brodie, Westmont, in which he explained what are the objects of the society—to disseminate the knowledge of the best methods of fruit growing and of vegetable growing, and also floriculture.—Mr. J. C. Chapais, of St. Denis, has read a paper on "The Planting of the Family Orchard in Eastern Quebec." This paper will be published in a later issue.

Mr. W. I. Macoun, of the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, gave a very practical and interesting talk on "Strawberry Culture," in which he dealt with the different methods of culture, and the best varieties to grow.

At the evening session, Professor Blair, of Macdonald College, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, gave an orchard talk, in which he dealt with the location of the orchard, soil, planting of the tree, and caring for it during the early years of its life.

The question of injurious insects was also taken up, such as the railroad worm, the cane worm, the apple maggot, etc., and the best methods of getting rid of the pests was discussed.

Mr. E. Reynaud, of La Trappe, contributed a paper on "Evaporating of Fruits and Vegetables," in which he pointed out that this process of preservation could be commercially carried out on a large scale. The advantage of drying fruits was that they could be kept in a condition fit for consumption in a much smaller space than was the case with fresh fruit. In Westmont much had been done in this direction, and large quantities were exported to the European market at a fair profit. Mr. Reynaud then went on to point out that when the apple crop in France was a failure, there would be a good market for the evaporated fruit, which was suitable for cider making. He also mentioned that pears, beans, carrots, cauliflower, onions and cabbage could be dried very easily, and would be a profitable product on the market.

One of the interesting papers read at the Covey Hill meeting, was that by Mr. W. T. Macoun, whose subject was "The Development of Experimental Work," in which he briefly summed up the work done by expert horticulturists throughout the world, and gave some idea of what they were trying to do for the betterment of horticulture. He also suggested methods by which ordinary horticulturists might benefit themselves. Among the latter was co-operation, which he believed was one of the most important steps made in recent years. He also suggested the lack of facilities at the Covey Hill, and other places similarly situated, for getting the fruit crop harvested and marketed, it would be a splendid thing if six or ten were to combine, so as to gather and market their crops in the most expeditious manner.

He spoke of the specialization to which the work in horticulture was now being subjected, and traced the history of gardening from early times. He then went on to say that with the 18th century there began the modern era for horticulture, and investigations were taken up which could only be made by the use of the microscope, and by the aid of chemistry. By means of these investigations, plant breeders and agriculturists, he would not be likely to make the highest success of his business.

More than 60 colleges and experimental stations in America were represented in Canada a little more than 20 in Quebec, and while some of the work done had been of an experimental character only, the larger part of the work undertaken at the Central Experimental Farm had been done with a view to ascertaining causes and finding out results. The college at Guelph had done much for agriculture, and the Macdonald College at Ste. Anne de Bellevue was carrying on investigations which should be of great value to horticulturists in this province and other parts of the Dominion. In conclusion he spoke of the work that is being done at the various experimental stations in the Dominion, in order to show what is being done for horticulture in Canada. Professor Swaine of the Macdonald College, gave a very practical talk on "Orchard Insects, and their Control," in which he pointed out that there were two kinds of these pests—biting insects, and sucking ones. The former fed upon the leaves of plants and trees, and the latter sucked up the juices and deprived vegetation of its vitality. He enumerated several of these enemies to the orchard, briefly sketched their life history, mentioned the parasites to which some of them are prey, and gave formulae for remedial measures that might be adopted in other cases. In his concluding emphasis on thorough spraying at particular seasons, and pointing out that by the adoption of the latter a very large percentage of fruit which was not practically worthless could be made a valuable market product.

In a paper on "Roses," Mr. G. P. Hitchcock, of Massachusetts, gave some very interesting historical details concerning this much admired flower, of which he said that there were between 300 and 400 species, and the cultivation of certain of these for commercial purposes gave employment to thousands of people. He then touched on the culture of roses, mentioning the kind of soil, fertilizers, etc., required for their successful cultivation; referred to the different means of propagation, touched on the insect pests to which the plants are liable, and named varieties which he considered might be fairly easily grown, and give much satisfaction. Professor Blair, of the Macdonald College, gave a very practical talk on "Orchard Work," particularly with regard to the planting of trees and the care of the orchard in the early stages of its growth. He also pointed out that in horticulture, as in any other business, a man must take a deep interest in his work, must keep in touch with up-to-date methods, and do nothing slovenly or half-alice of thumb, if he would make a success of the occupation in which he is engaged.

Ontario Horticultural Exhibition

P. W. Hodgkins, Secretary, Toronto

The Ontario Horticultural Exhibition, this year, he held in the St. Lawrence Market Area, Toronto, Nov. 10-14. For three years this show has filled Massey Hall to overflowing, and, after serious consideration at their last meeting, the directors decided to move to the larger buildings, where all the fruit, flowers, vegetables and honey, could be shown on the one floor, and where ample space could be provided for the rapidly increasing number of exhibits in each section. The St. Lawrence Hall is conveniently located on the Belt King street car lines, and has already been used for various shows, including the automobile and horse shows. It lends itself specially well to a show such as the commercial growers have been putting up the past four years. It is hoped also that room in the building may be fitted up for the holding of the various conventions meeting during the week.

The Eastern Passenger Association has granted more favorable railway rates for the exhibition than last year. The single excursion tickets within a radius of 81 miles, may now be bought from Nov. 10-14, good to return until the 17th, these to include a coupon admission ticket to the show for an additional 25 cents. Single fare tickets on the certificate plan may be bought from Nov. 6-16, and are good up to the 19th, no mat-

ter how many may purchase tickets on the plan.

The prize lists for the various sections were submitted with some slight changes and the printed lists will be got out as soon as possible. A big effort will be made to advertise the show and the conventions as widely as possible, both in Toronto, and over the province generally.

New Society in Quebec

At a meeting held at Macdonald College on June 24th, a new society called the Quebec Society for the Protection of Plants from Insects and Fungous Pests was organized. The following officers were elected: President, Prof. W. Lochhead, Macdonald College; vice-president, Frere Liguori, La Trappe, Q.-bec; secretary-treasurer, Douglas Weir, Macdonald College; directors, Rev. Dr. Fyles, Levis, Quebec; Rev. G. Ducharme, Rigaud, Quebec; Auguste Dupuis, Village des Aulnaies, Quebec; A. F. Winn, Montreal; Dr. W. Grignon, Ste. Adele, Quebec; curator-librarian, J. M. Swaine, Macdonald College.

A substantial grant has been given to the society by the Department of Agriculture of Quebec. The success of the society is practically assured on account of the interest manifested by both French and English workers. It is truly provincial in its aims, work and membership. There will be two meetings each year, a general winter meeting at Macdonald College for the transaction of necessary business, the reading of reports and papers, and a general review of the year's work; and a summer field meeting at some outside point in the province of Quebec. As the society exists for the benefit of the province, it is urged that all outbreaks of insect and fungous pests be reported to the secretary, Macdonald College, so that special help may be given promptly.

Reforestation—If a fairly large tract of each Township was set apart and planted with young trees, in 50 years the value of that timber would be more than sufficient to pay the value of the taxes of a Township, and the generation which is to follow the present one would not be troubled with the question of the taxes which are worrying our farmers to-day.—George Berry, Peterboro Co., Ont.

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