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not facilitate speed, but rather retards it when the time required to pick up broken pieces and cooperage is considered. As inspectors at this port we insist on the handling of apples in boxes in the same way eggs are treated, and the system will not be complete until this has been accomplished.

The eight wood hoop barrel has been in the majority this season, and it is to be hoped that there will not be a six hoop barrel offered to exporters another season. Wire hoops on apple barrels should be discouraged. Nailing hoops at either end into the fruit is a barbarous habit.

Windfall apples should be always marked windfall, so that the purchaser will not count on their keeping quality. When all these little factors that compose a perfect parcel are observed, we may hope for full success, and not until then.

Prince Edward Island Notes

Rev. Father A. E. Burke, President Prince Edward Island Fruit Growers' Association

WE quite appreciate the advantages accruing to local horticulture from the opening in a valuable magazine like *THE HORTICULTURIST* of a permanent department wherein all its needs and aspirations may find ready expression. Nothing can better respond to our feelings as orchardists, and make more effectively for the spread of sane ideas and practises amongst us. One only regret—that some one better qualified to speak for the Island and so important a branch of its agricultural activity than ourself, has not taken up the task! However, we shall simply break the ice, if anything so frigid can be said to exist between us and the general horticultural educationalists of Canada, and whenever found, relinquish without a murmur this special column to the man best qualified to make it useful to us and creditable to all.

Despite the difficulties of winter communication, our growers of apples showed up well at the Winter Fair, Amherst, last month. The apple exhibition was away in advance of other years; and, covering such an extent of territory, wonderfully uniform. The sweepstakes exhibit by Mr. D. S. Collins, of Kings County, N.S., constituted a picture in itself. How more perfect fruit could be found it would be hard to say. His varieties, too, were eminently commercial. Ten varieties were called for, and they were furnished as follows: King, Spy, Golden Russet, Nonpariel, Blenheim, Stark, Baldwin, Ribston, Gravenstein and Fallawater. This exhibit would command admiration anywhere. In Nova Scotia the Blenheim is a most successful apple. It was known as Gravenstein in the past; that day is done.

New Brunswick only swung into line last year in the establishment of a Fruit Growers' Association. We all felt that it should organize as it could grow good fruit. What is the consequence? A splendid impetus in so short a time to all kinds of orcharding. Its apples at Amherst were in many cases admirable.

The Bearing Wood of Currants

Regarding the pruning of currant bushes Mr. A. W. Peart, of Burlington, informs *THE HORTICULTURIST* that red currants do not bear on the previous year's wood as was stated in a report of the address that he gave at the Ontario Horticultural Exhibition.

Red currants bear on spurs grown on wood one year old and upwards, and in a measure at the base of last year's shoots. Black currants bear chiefly on wood of the previous year, and to a limited extent on spurs from old wood. These points should be considered when pruning the currant bushes.

In packing apples in boxes the fruit must be uniform in size and type. By facing the box with the stem end upward the bruises show far less.—(Harry Dempsey, Rednerville.)

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