

### THE FRUIT MAGAZINE AND PLAGIARISM

Under the title of "Plagiarism," the Editor of the "Fruit Magazine" gives the retort self-sufficient at least to the Editorial in our July issue calling attention to the unacknowledged reproduction in the "Fruit Magazine" of an article contributed to our pages.

We are interested to note that our use of the word "Plagiarism" led the Editor of the "Fruit Magazine" to consult "Webster," which he apparently had need to do, as to the meaning of "plagiarist," quoted by him with didactic dignity as "one who purloins another's writings and offers them to the public as his own." Even the Editor of the "Fruit Magazine" with scissors or paste-brush in hand, might have deduced from that that a plagiarist as applied to a Magazine may be defined as "A Magazine which purloins another's contributions and offers them to the public as its own." That is just what the "Fruit Magazine" did in regard to the article in question, and hence the title of the editorial in our July number,—*"Plagiarism in Magazine Articles."*

The "Fruit Magazine's" Editor tries to excuse his action by saying "the article in question was not a contribution to any publication, but an address delivered in public, and reproduced whole, or in part, by a number of the daily papers." We challenge the Editor of the "Fruit Magazine" to refer us, or his readers, to any "daily paper" which reproduced the address "whole"; and we shall be interested to learn of any "daily paper" which had the address even "in part" in more than a few sentences. We venture to suggest that it would have been more in accordance with elementary honesty, to say nothing of "the ethics

of journalism", to which this Editor makes lofty reference, if he had practised in his Magazine the reply he gave, somewhat patronizing though it was, when he was first told orally that he should have acknowledged the copying, namely, that "it would not have done them any harm to have acknowledged the source from which they had taken the article."

The descent of the Editor of the "Fruit Magazine" to patronizing personalities in regard to "inexperience" is somehow just the kind of reference other contact with him led us to expect from the Editor of the "Fruit Magazine," considered personally and politically. With all his experience of fruits, and fruits of experience, it evidently has not occurred to the tired, or retired, fruit inspector, and, as may be hoped, coming politician and possible Premier of British Columbia, who edits the "Fruit Magazine," that another man might be considerably younger in years than himself and nevertheless have had not less, and possibly a good deal more, journalistic and kindred experience that he has had. If, apart from that, we are still guilty of "the atrocious crime of being a young man," we respectfully refer the Editor of the "Fruit Magazine" to Pitt's reply to Walpole in which that phrase is used. He may find it useful, and worth studying, journalistically, politically, and personally.

To record "that a public address is not the exclusive property of any publisher, and that no man has a monopoly on truth," suggests that species of quibbling which, in politics particularly, plays with the commonplace in high-sounding language, and so seeks to evade real issues.

We repeat that the article in ques-