

## B. C. FRUIT AND FARM

### CALGARY SHIPPERS DESIRE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR FOR VEGETABLES.

The Vernon Fruit Company, Ltd., whose head offices are at Calgary, have addressed the following letter to the Minister of Trade and Commerce:

"Calgary, Alta., Dec. 10, 1914.

To Sir George E. Foster,  
Dept. of Trade and Commerce,  
Ottawa.

Dear Sir—We have long felt the need of an Inspector for Vegetables, just as we have for fruit. We often buy potatoes from the grower, writing him that they must be carefully graded, clean of scab, cracks, etc., only to find on the arrival of the car that the potatoes run small, considerably scabby, and other disqualifying features. The grower is indignant at our complaints, accusing us of dishonesty, etc.

To avoid such unpleasant disputes we are forced to buy from shippers and jobbers, and the farmers complain because we will not deal directly with them. We do not wish to infer that all growers are dishonest. However, his own product certainly looks better to him, than it does to the city buyer.

It is an expense for growers at small points to have to get a shipper from some distance away to come and buy his stuff. It is also expensive for him to bring the vegetables to the market himself. If he brings the car to market it means a long railway journey for him, and when he reaches the city he finds that he is up against a city transient trader's licence, and so at the mercy of the buyers.

Had we a trained Vegetable Inspector (possibly the present Fruit Inspector could handle this line without any particular trouble or additional expense), we are sure this Inspector, when necessary, would prove a boon to the producer and also the buyer, as well as greatly stimulate trade.—Yours truly,

VERNON FRUIT CO., LTD.  
I. J. Fee, Mgr."

First prize honors for the Province in the children's crop competitions have been won by Allan Crouter, who resides at Vedder River. Allan Crouter, who entered under the auspices of the Chilliwack Farmers' Institute, had no suitable land of his own, and rented a tenth of an acre from Mr. P. W. Crankshaw, of Sardis. This he cultivated assiduously, and has taken first place in the Province, winning the pure-bred heifer calf given by the Provincial Government to the successful competitor.

### HOW TEACHERS MAY HELP.

By Ellen B. McDonald, Superintendent  
of Schools, Oconto County,  
Wisconsin.

The teacher can help the homes of her district only through her natural work in the community, and not by trying to apply any external "cure all" for economic problems.

The teacher has many opportunities to bring her work into close relationship to the home. Take arithmetic, for instance. She can apply the fundamental operations to egg and butter accounts; to farm work problems; to problems based on the milk sheet; to the building of a new silo, barn or school; to a simple system of farm bookkeeping; in short, to any of the live interests of the farm.

It is possible to make the work in agriculture practical. When studying corn, why not study the real thing, not a text book. Why not visit a field, select best stalks, and best ears, get the state circulars on corn selection, curing and testing and make racks for drying, and later on actually test the seed. It is not necessary to limit this work to the class in agriculture, for it is possible to get the whole school and the community interested. As part of their school work she can have the pupils select and fire-dry corn at home and, later in the season, test it.

Other topics in agriculture offer the same opportunity for work that will reach the home—weeds, poultry, silos, alfalfa, and use of the Babcock tester. The wide-awake teacher will get a tester for the school and use it freely. She will have pupils demonstrate its use at evening programmes and make tests for each home. They can keep milk sheets, and weigh the milk every day to determine actual value of cows. Pupils are exceedingly interested in this work, and older boys will come in for the winter months if they find something practical offered.

School credit for home work offers another field where the teachers may help. The child needs to keep his interest in the home very close to his interest in the school. He must be ready to help at home and do it cheerfully as part of the day's work. Experiments show that school credit for home work does create and maintain this attitude. The plan does not need explanation, for it is well known in Wisconsin, and wherever it has been tried, has found enthusiastic support.

In short, the teacher who wishes to help must feel that she is a part of the community, and must be loyal and ready to serve.

### Soluble Sulphur Compound

Many of our friends are desirous of trying this material as a winter spray, and to meet their wishes we have decided to supply it. Until it is thoroughly tested in B. C., we do not feel like endorsing it for general use, but we certainly recommend experimental work. This material has been tried in Ontario, Oregon, Washington and New York State, and many reports say it is very effective. Certainly, if it does work well, it has several advantages over Lime-Sulphur Solution, in that it is supplied in powder form, is readily soluble in water, and dispenses with heavy handling, as well as a great proportion of the freight charges.

DIRECTIONS: Use 1 lb. Soluble Sulphur Compound to every 4 imperial gallons of water.

### The Victoria Chemical Co., Ltd.

VICTORIA, B. C.

Ask for our Fertilizer and Spray Catalogue.

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