

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

commendation of the innovation was expressed at the close of the last session in a motion by Rev. Mr. Robinson, of the Church of England; seconded by Judge Cline, President of the Walkerton Horticultural Society.

To this Horticultural Section many delegates were sent from affiliated Horticultural Societies, and we predict that this department will so increase in interest that no Horticultural Society in the province can afford to be unrepresented.

SOME EXCEPTIONAL PROFITS IN FRUIT GROWING.

MR. W. T. MACOUN, Horticulturist of the Experimental Farm, Ottawa, reported that he had put up some of the finest of his Wealthy and McIntosh Red apples, and forwarded them to Glasgow in bushel boxes on the 3rd of October, and, even on consignment, he had netted \$1.00 a box, which was much better than he had done in any Ontario market. The writer reported on 100 cases of Kings he had shipped at the same time to Glasgow on consignment, and which had netted \$100.30; and also on 117 cases of Blenheims, forwarded from Beamsville, which had netted \$134!

Mr. D. J. McKinnon reported upon 83 apple trees on two acres of land, mostly Spys and Baldwins, which this year netted him \$500, or \$250 an acre. Such returns from the apple crop must have hit sorely upon those men, who, in recent years, became disgusted with apple growing, and all too hastily dug out the trees, root and branch; trees which had cost perhaps twenty years of cultivation and great outlay of money.

Mr. E. B. Stevenson, Jordan, our Strawberry expert, clapped the climax when he reported upon an acre of ground planted in 1900 to Clyde and Williams strawberry plants, which yielded in 1901 600 crates, or 14,400 quarts of berries, averaging net five

cents each, or \$700; and in 1902 500 crates, or 12,000 quarts, which, at five cents each, gave \$600. He also gave another instance of a man at Jordan who purchased three acres of new land, planted the plot to Williams, Clyde and Michel strawberry plants, and took off it 1,200 crates of berries in 1901, and cleared \$1,100 in cash.

Of course these exceptional profits must not mislead our readers; they are here noted simply to show what can be done by pluck, plod and perseverance, in almost any line of horticulture.

BRIGHT PROSPECTS.

THE near markets are the ones to be worked for these rich returns and not the distant ones, which eat up all the profit in expenses. There is scarcely a town in Ontario, of 1000 inhabitants, which will not give similar profits to the market gardener who will grow a full assortment of fruit and vegetables, and make a tri-weekly round from house to house, with an attractive display upon his wagon.

The great north and north west markets also should be most encouraging to Ontario fruit growers. The millions of acres to the north of the C. P. R., said Mr. C. C. James, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, in his address, will soon be settled with a large population, who will be hungry for our apples, peaches, pears and grapes; and no doubt the export of our fruit to Great Britain will by and by sink into insignificance compared with the demand in the northern and western markets for our fruits. With this great future before us, how evident is the importance of the great educational campaign which this Association has undertaken, through its Secretary, Mr. G. C. Creelman, who has organized local fruit growers' associations in every section, and is sending experts to give instruction regarding the best varieties of fruit, the best methods of cultivating them, and the best way to market them.