

view is held also by Mr. G. C. Caston, of Craighurst, who contends that should growers find time for only one spraying in a season, that one should be with copper sulphate, three pounds in 40 gallons of water, and done early in spring when trees are dormant.

### Prizes for Celery Growers

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Ont. Vegetable Growers' Assn., held in Toronto May 22, it was decided to recommend to the branch associations throughout the province that prizes be offered this year for the best crops of celery; judges to be sent around to inspect the different crops. As submitted to the branch associations for their approval, it is proposed that the competition shall be conducted as follows: That there shall be two classes, one for growers with 1,000 to 10,000 plants, and one for growers with 10,000 plants or over, competitors to enter their whole crop. Five prizes will be offered in each class of \$25, \$20, \$15, \$10, and \$5 each.

Competitors must be members of the assn., and must send their entries to the secretary of the provincial assn. by July 10, accompanied by an entry fee of \$1. Judging will start Aug. 1, and will be completed by Aug. 15. The committee reserves the right to make such alterations in the regulations governing the competition as later may seem desirable. Should either class have less than six entries, the committee reserves the right to cancel any or all the prizes in such class. Each competitor will be required to furnish full information in regard to his method of growing his crop and the completeness and value of the information thus furnished will be taken into consideration by the judges in awarding the prizes, and later will be published in the annual report of the assn.

The sec.-treas. was authorized to watch the bulletins issued by the various U.S. expt. stations and to purchase extra copies for the members of the assn. when same are likely to be of value and can be bought at reasonable prices.

It was decided to correspond with the Ont. Fruit Growers' Assn. favoring joint action in approaching the Dominion Minister of Agri. to request that the next census figures shall be so arranged as to separate the figures showing the total production of vegetables and fruit which hitherto, in some important sections, have been lumped together.

### Ottawa Horticultural Society

Some new features will be introduced by the Ottawa Horticultural Soc. this year. The exhibitions of flowers instead of lasting only one evening, will be continued until 5 o'clock the following day, so that more people may see them. Exhibitors who remove their exhibits before the close of the show forfeit their prizes.

The inaugural exhibition was held last week and was a great success. At each exhibition three prizes of \$8, \$5 and \$2 are offered for the best displays of cut flowers arranged for effect in a space 20 sq. ft. in size. This is one of the features of the exhibitions. Lady Grey has announced that she will continue the garden competitions that were introduced and conducted by Lady Minto. The work among the school children of the city, that has been conducted for several years by Mayor Ellis and Mr. R. B. Whyte, will be continued this year. Interesting addresses are given at each of the monthly meetings.

Russet apples should be packed in a close box because they evaporate and become wrinkled so quickly. A close box tends to prevent this evaporation. — A. McNeill, Chief of Fruit Division, Ottawa.

THE HORTICULTURIST is going ahead of all others in the matters of horticulture.—Nelson Caron, Prairie de Loup, Que.

## A Large Crop of Fruit Probable

THE following reports on fruit crop conditions in N.S., Que., and Ont. were received too late for publication in our last issue, but are still of interest. They show prospects for a large crop of fruit in all three provinces are bright.

#### NOVA SCOTIA

Trees have wintered all right. I do not see any winter killing; no loss from mice, no breaking with snow. We ought to have a good crop of apples, but it is June that tells the tale. Orchard setting is up to former years. Many farmers are increasing their settings, and commercial orchards as a business proposition are becoming more common. Better care is being taken, clean cultivation and cover crops in midsummer becoming the rule rather than the exception. Spraying for fungi and insects will be practised this year in tenfold ratio, as last year's experience was an eye-opener to many: 100 pumps have been sold for use in this section.—R. S. Eaton, Berwick, N.S.

Fruit trees wintered splendidly; even peaches. Every variety of fruit looks well. Quite a few persons have planted 1,000 apple trees each. This has become so common a piece of work that it creates no remarks. Large numbers are planting 200 to 500. Plum, peach and apple were light last year, and we expect a good showing, possibly 800,000 bbls. We should have this if a good year.—R. S. Eaton, Kentville.

#### QUEBEC.

Fruit trees are in good condition. Many of our orchardists are increasing their acreage year by year, and the present season is no exception. Fameuse and McIntosh Red are the favorite varieties. An unusual amount of dead wood was pruned from old orchards this year, likely due to the excessive cold winter of 1903-4. The past winter has been

an unusually open one for this province, and vegetation has suffered more or less. Grass in many sections is injured, also shrubbery, such as rose bushes, raspberries and blackberry canes and strawberry plants, where not properly covered.—J. M. Fisk, Abbotsford.

#### ONTARIO

Prospects for all kinds of fruit in the Lake Huron district are very good. Trees and plants came through the winter in first-class condition. Very little planting is being done, only a few trees here and there filling in vacant places. The Bruce Fruit Growers' Assn. is making arrangements to put up an evaporator in connection with their packing house.—A. E. Sherrington, Walkerton.

There has been a great appearance of bloom, with buds very full and strong. Even the peach trees wintered well. There was very little planting done. People seem to have got completely discouraged with condition of affairs during last few years. However, I think this will soon change, as I notice more interest being taken in the orchards this spring in the way of pruning, spraying, etc., than for many years. The Georgian Bay Fruit Growers, Ltd., are again to the front with highest prices in British market for apples. March shipments averaged on all grades \$4.55 net at Thornbury.—J. G. Mitchell, Clarksburg.

Fruit prospects were never better in the apple line. Pears seem to have suffered some. Peaches are almost a failure. Plums, also, especially the Japanese have suffered. Our section is mainly an apple and pear one, so that we do not feel the loss of plums and peaches very seriously. There may, however, still be a fair crop of these. Apples seem to be in very good condition. We have been busy with two power outfits spraying, and hope for a bumper crop.—W. D. A. Ross, Chatham.

### Fruit Preservatives

Frank T. Shutt, M.A., Chemist, C.E.F., Ottawa

For a number of years past experiments have been carried on to ascertain the most satisfactory fluids for the preservation of fruits for exhibition purposes—fluids which not only would be antiseptic, but also, as far as possible, would keep the fruit with its natural size and color. For the information of those who may have occasion to exhibit fruit several months after it is picked, the results of these trials, with recommendations, have been published from time to time as the work progressed. In the course of investigation the merits of more than 50 solutions with various kinds of fruit have been tested. That the problem is a difficult one will be apparent from the fact that more than 75% of these fluids have been found more or less unsatisfactory.

The experience gained from trials made during the season of 1905 enables us to offer the following recommendations, the final examination of the fruit being made on April 1, 1906. Much credit for the success in this work must be accorded Mr. W. H. Charlton, of the chemical staff, who has had this investigation under his charge.

#### STRAWBERRIES

The most satisfactory fluid for this fruit is formalin, 2%; hydrogen peroxide, 2%; alcohol, 10%. It has been under trial for two years, and berries kept in it for this period have retained, in a very large measure, their natural appearance.

#### RED CURRANTS

A fluid of zinc chloride 3% and alcohol 10% has given excellent results, and can be strongly recommended.

#### GOOSEBERRIES

Copper sulphate 1% and alcohol 10% can be spoken of in the highest terms. Fruit of last season has retained its natural form and color practically unimpaired. There was no splitting of the fruit or apparent shrinkage.

#### RASPBERRIES, RED AND PURPLE

This is a difficult fruit to preserve without the fluid becoming so dark that the berries can scarcely be seen. By an occasional change of fluid, alum 5% gives fairly good results. It is the best of the many solutions experimented with.

#### PEAS AND BEANS

Zinc chloride 3% and alcohol 10% has proved very good for preserving peas in the pod. The samples retained their natural color and appearance. For green beans in the pod a solution of sodium sulphide 4% has been found excellent, and can be recommended.

When possible distilled water should be used in making up these fluids. Having determined the quantity of fluid required, the amount of the various chemicals to use may be readily ascertained by remembering that one gal. is practically 160 ozs. Ten %, therefore, means 16 oz., 5%, eight oz. to the gallon, and so on.

We are Booming in Canada.—I must congratulate you on the great improvement in THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST. You are doing good work at Toronto. THE HORTICULTURIST is one of the very best papers of many horticultural journals we have on file here. I read with great interest the report of the recent meeting of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association. Horticultural affairs certainly are booming in Canada.—(Prof. W. N. Hutt, Agricultural Experiment Station, Maryland, U.S.A.)