

ease called 'black rot,' which has done so much damage in Ohio, and in portions of New York State, as well as in the western part of our own Province, has gained a strong foothold in the Niagara district, where by far the larger portion of the grapes consumed in Canada are produced. This disease has affected primarily the Rogers variety, but has also made, during the past two years, severe inroads upon the vineyards of Niagara grapes; and in some instances has taken hold of the Concord as well. Thorough and frequent applications of the Bordeaux mixture have been shown to be a specific for this disease, and it would seem a matter of prudence for all owners of vineyards to be on the alert and check this disease before it shall have spread over the entire district and have destroyed what is fast coming to be the most important fruit product of the section referred to.

"Taking it all in all, the coming fruit season promises to be a busy one for the aver-

age fruit grower. With the great scarcity of competent help, and consequently much higher wages to be paid, and a general increase in the cost of handling the crop, unless a good distribution of the crop be made and fair prices realized throughout the season, it may be that many of our growers may not consider an abundant crop of fruit an unmixed blessing. A full crop, however, will no doubt result in putting an abundance of the gifts of the Great Creator into the hands of the thousands of our cities and towns who in years of scarcity cannot afford to enjoy them. It only remains for our express and transportation companies to awake to the situation and provide such facilities, both as to moderate rates and prompt service, as shall supplement the efforts of the vast body of earnest fruit growers of our Province, and the close of the season will see all concerned—producer, handler, and consumer alike—well satisfied with the result of the season's operations."

## ORCHARD MEETINGS IN NEW BRUNSWICK.

**U**NDER direction of the Department of Agriculture for the Dominion, a series of twelve orchard meetings was held in New Brunswick this spring.

They were addressed by Mr. Alex. McNeil and Mr. G. H. Vroom, Dominion Fruit Inspectors, who gave practical demonstrations in pruning, grafting, spraying, and "orchard repairs" generally.

Not a little of the success of these meetings was due to the efforts of Mr. Thos. A. Peters, Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture for New Brunswick, and Mr. W. W. Hubbard, representing the agricultural interests of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

The following notes are from Mr. Mc-

Neil's report to the Chief of the fruit division:

Our meetings covered the St. John Valley from Andover South, as well as the points between St. John, Hillsboro, and Shediac. This wide range of country may be conveniently divided into two districts, the one lying north of Woodstock and the other south. The northern division is growing the hardier varieties of apples, and in certain favored spots the Ben Davis and some of the winter varieties succeed. The southern district is growing all the commercial varieties, but the Duchess (New Brunswick) is the commonest variety, and in many places is grown to the exclusion of all others.