

special injunction to "put in only the *choicest specimens*," otherwise the slightest neglect in this regard would bring discredit upon Canadian apple growers! We want a change in the present system, and you, gentlemen, fruit growers of Ontario, will need to solve the problem. Slack, wet and wasty are convenient terms too frequently applied, unless the product is towed across like a raft behind a scow. We see in the public press and from high authority in the land that cold storage facilities for the transportation of our fruit products will be put in proper shape before the next season's crop. I sincerely hope such will be the case. But one additional link will then be necessary to make the chain perfect and establish confidence with the producer—the establishment of a depot for the handling of Canadian fruit, and by one who has some knowledge and experience in Canadian fruit culture. This I consider all important, and his return to this country at the close of the season to report to the fruit growers the conditions that exist and the possibilities of trade in the future. At present all is uncertainty and doubt. "Distance lends enchantment to the view," but when we pause and reflect that our big English brother is to-day revelling in choice Canadian apples at cost of freight and commission, or less, it does not inspire the Canadian apple grower with much respect for the present system of handling the product. Up to November 30th the quantity gone forward from this continent was about 1,000,000 barrels, or about two quarts for each family living in the market boundaries to which they have been shipped, while in Canada the probable consumption would reach one bushel or more per family, which shows an almost unlimited market under proper conditions.

Spraying experiments were again conducted by the Department of Agriculture during the past year, and we expect valuable information from the report on this work. Now, it has been practically demonstrated to the fruit growers that spraying with Bordeaux mixture is an effective remedy for all fungus diseases. We think a careful system of experiments should be conducted, either in a similar way or by the Fruit Experiment Stations, for destroying the Codling Moth. Great improvements have been made by the manufacturers of spraying outfits, and in answer to the numerous enquiries continually being made as to which spray pump is the most suitable for general use, the Board of Control of the Fruit Experiment Stations of Ontario decided to invite a public trial of spray pumps, which was held last April, at Grimsby. Eleven pumps were exhibited, each being required to use one barrel of the Bordeaux mixture. The pumps and their work was judged by H. L. Hutt and your President on a scale of points as follows:

1. Ease of operation. 2. Evenness of distribution. 3. Compactness of style. 4. Durability. 5. Power. 6. Agitator. 7. Accessories.

The judges, in their award, class the pumps in three groups; group one standing as follows:

Spramotor, London, Ontario.

Eclipse, Benton Harbor, Michigan.

Anderson, Aylmer Iron Works.

Pomona, Seneca Falls, New York.

Medals and diplomas have been received, awarded on fruit at the World's Columbian Exhibition to districts and societies in different parts of Ontario. At the suggestion of the Honorable Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Dryden, these awards will be placed on exhibition and kept in the Parliament Buildings, Toronto, showing the great achievements of the fruit growers of Ontario. This arrangement we consider much better than having them buried in the private houses of the presidents and secretaries of the different societies. I would suggest that they be placed on exhibition each year, for a few years, in the Horticultural Department of the Industrial Exhibition, Toronto. It is a matter for regret that fifteen individual awards, after this long delay, have not been received.

Fruit experiment stations have been established during the past year, making ten in all, covering every section pretty fully, and, in a few years, the fruit growers of this Province should receive from them a great deal of valuable information. We think the