

neglected to spray early and thoroughly enough, and the consequence is that orchards in Auburn are badly damaged by the Forest Tent Caterpillar (*Clisiocampa disstria*). Late spraying does not have very much effect on them as they are busy preparing to spin cocoons, but it is most important to spray before the buds open if these pests are to be destroyed.

There is quite an epidemic of gasoline engines in this district and the hand pump will soon be obsolete in the spraying of orchards. Two very progressive men have purchased an Owen's compressed air outfit, which seems to give satisfaction, and will probably supplant the other power sprayers.

Thinning is also receiving much attention. Growers realize that number threes cost as much to market as number ones, and as it only costs about five cents per barrel, the increase in returns is considerable.

Owing to the poor prices received for apples last year (chiefly due to neglect in spraying) money is scarce this year, and the demand for nursery trees slackened off towards the end of the season and many orders were cancelled. Barrels are now twenty-nine cents—a cent more than last year. The young trees have done well, owing to so much rain and cool weather. In many orchards the cover crop of clover

to be turned under is about three tons to the acre. Growers are seeding down alternate spaces every year so that one space is kept cultivated and the other green. Much nitrogenous fertilizer, as nitrate of soda and dried fish, is being used.

Cultivated strawberries and wild blueberries will probably be plentiful. Early sown seeds, such as corn, cucumber and beans, rotted and continued west winds have been hard on young garden stuff. Fruit trees have magnificent leaves.

National Fruit Growers' Officers

At the last Dominion Conference of fruit growers a movement was started having for its object the organization of a Canadian National Fruit Growers' Association. A draft constitution and provisional bylaws were adopted by the conference, and J. A. Ruddick, Dominion Dairy and Cold Storage Commissioner, was requested to undertake the organization. The election of officers has been carried on by letter ballot, and the list is now complete.

Membership in the Association is limited to the officers of the provincial fruit growers' associations and such other persons as may hereafter be named by the association on recommendation of the executive. The provincial officers who have been elected are: President, Robert Thompson, St. Catharines; Vice-President, S. C.

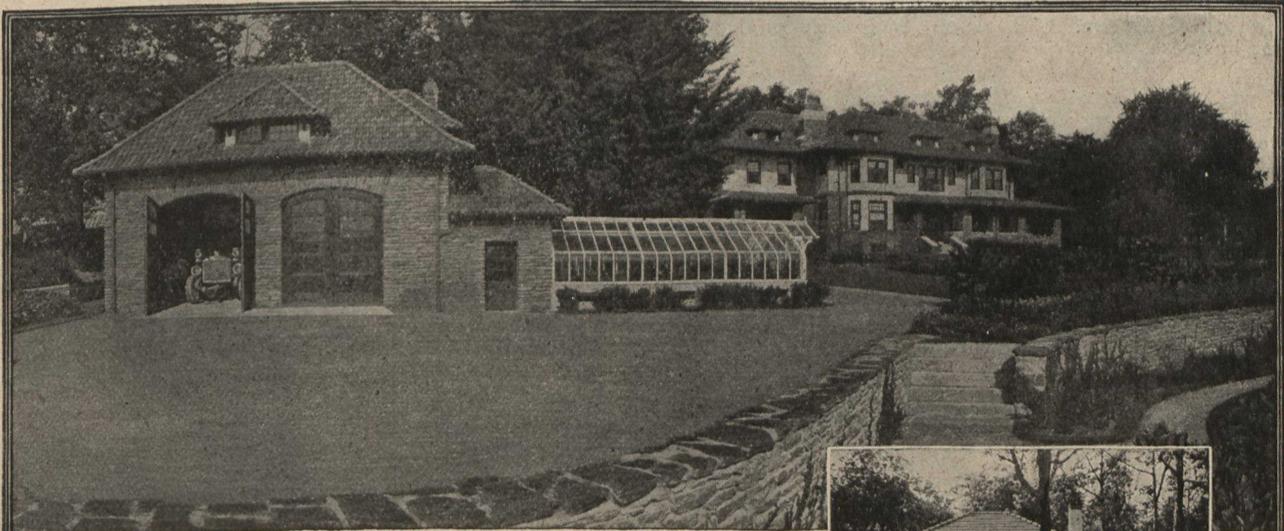
Parker, Berwick, N. S.; Secretary-Treasurer, P. W. Hodgetts, Toronto; members of committee: W. C. Ricardo, Vernon, B.C., R. M. Winslow, Victoria; Manning K. Ellis, Port Williams, N.S.

The fruit division will now turn the matter over to the officers-elect.

In the June issue of *The Canadian Horticulturist* an error occurred in Mr. Peart's article, "Picking Strawberries." In the first paragraph, instead of "precooking the strawberries before sending them to market," the idea is to "precool them."

A splendid publication is the 1913 Annual Report of the Fruit Growers' Association of Nova Scotia, a copy of which has been received by *The Canadian Horticulturist*. This report, in addition to a full resume of the work carried on through the Association, contains valuable contributions from practical fruit growers and orchard experts dealing with orchard problems, cultural methods, fertilizing, spraying, thinning, packing. Markets and fruit exhibits are among the subjects treated.

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