

their boxes secure by means of steel bands and screw-nails. These practices cannot be allowed. They will not do in commercial packing. No matter how good the fruit, these defects would warrant the judges in throwing the entry out. Not a single packer had used the proper nails. The best nail is a round, corrugated wire nail roughened so that it holds in the wood. The next best thing is an ordinary nail resined or put in salt so that it will rust. Tight boxes are not wanted. The lids should never be nailed along the edges. Proper nailing at the ends and cleating is sufficient. If nailed along the edges ventilation is hindered and the fruit heats unless continually in cold storage, and the value of elasticity in the sides is removed. There should always be a bilge, and as the apples evaporate the spring due to this bilge goes in to take up the resulting slack. The cleats are essential because when stored the weight of contiguous packages should come on the cleats and not on the bilge. Dove-tailed boxes are not wanted, as they are liable to burst open after being used a short time or if stored in a moist place. White spruce, free from knots, makes the best box. These can be made light and yet be strong, and spruce holds the nails well.

Some one wanted to know the quality of paper used in wrapping fruit. "The paper generally used," said Mr. McNeill, "is the regular duplex packing paper. It is calendered on one side and slightly thicker than ordinary paper. Any grained tough paper will answer the purpose."

An anxious grower remarked that there was no use packing apples in boxes when the Government will not take steps to secure the proper shipment of the fruit. Mr. Carey admitted that conditions were not the best, but claimed they were as good as they had been and growers had shipped with success for years.

"Orchardists object that the individual grower cannot ship his fruit," said Mr. McNeill, "but it is difficult to ship small lots of any commodity. Farmers should club together and ship in carloads."

"Cooperative packing establishments have been a success in several localities. Associations are incorporated for the trifling fee of 50 cents. The Government has lent aid by sending men to lecture on the advantages of these associations." The good work being done by the St. Catharines Packing and Forwarding Co. was mentioned to show what could be done in this line.

In reply to a question as to whether it would pay to use the California package for plums, Mr. McNeill said that it was not advisable for the local market, but that if we are to gain a place on the western markets that style of packing must be adopted.

Mr. Boies has been engaged by the Dominion Government to give demonstrations throughout the fruit districts. From Toronto he went to the Niagara district, and from there he goes east to Nova Scotia.

A TALK WITH MR. BOIES.

In an interview with *The Horticulturist* Mr. Boies said: "Growers in British Columbia have made a success of packing in boxes. Why cannot Ontario growers? In the west selling is done according to weight. A box of pears or apples is 40 pounds. Peaches, plums and grapes are put up in basket-crates, four square baskets to the crate, making about 20 pounds altogether. Many styles have been tested and these suit best."

There is a uniform standard along the coast from Mexico to British Columbia. In British Columbia the fruit inspectors will reject all fruit which is not in a standard package. One of the drawbacks in Ontario fruit conditions is the lack of a standard. Packages are allowed to come across the line in any package from a bushel to a