

of making up the shortage in exports, which to date is over 80,000 boxes for all Canada. From this on cows will begin to shrink a little in milk flow.

MORE BUTTER THAN LAST YEAR.

The creamery instructors report more butter being made than last year. Though there are fewer cows being milked in some sections, they are milking better owing to better pastures. The butter has sold off quickly at good prices.

MORE FREQUENT GATHERING OF CREAM NEEDED

Sanitary conditions at the creameries show some improvement, and the creameries are in better shape. Most of the makers are doing better work, and if they could rely on getting a good quality of cream there would be little wrong with the butter. Many creameries continue to gather cream only twice a week, which is not half often enough, especially during the hot weather.

LITTLE TROUBLE WITH ADULTERATED MILK.

The prosecutors have found little to do so far this season. There have been a couple of cases of tampering with milk reported from Eastern Ontario. The parties were convicted and fined. The fact that officials are on the road to look after delinquents is proving a very effective deterrent.

DAIRY VISITORS FROM NEW YORK STATE.

Several dairy instructors from New York State made a trip through the Belleville district last week. They visited a number of factories in that section, in company with G. A. Putnam, Director of Dairy Instruction, and G. G. Publow, Chief Instructor for Eastern Ontario. The object of their visit was to obtain information regarding the system of instruction in operation in Ontario, and to see how it works out in practice.

A UNIQUE GATHERING OF CREAMERY PATRONS.

Friday, July 3rd, 1908, being pay-day for the Beaver Valley Creamery & Produce Co., the patrons and their friends who are interested in dairying met in Clarksburg, Ont., at the invitation of Messrs. Metcalf and Peterson (owners of the creamery), in order to get better acquainted; also to ascertain the best methods to secure the most satisfactory results.

Mr. "Mack" Robertson, Government Instructor in Dairying for Western Ontario, was present, and gave an excellent address. The day was an ideal one; between two and three hundred altogether were present. The spacious grounds adjoining the residence of Mr. C. W. Hartman, banker, were placed at the disposal of the gathering. At 3 p.m. Mr. Hartman welcomed the guests of the day. He was not financially interested in the creamery business, but was one of its patrons. Years ago he had noticed in looking over the financial reports of various districts in the Province that wherever dairying was carried on extensively there were fewer chattel mortgages and bad debts than in other parts.

Mr. C. A. Metcalf was a graduate of the Guelph Dairy School, and had for some years successfully conducted a creamery a few miles distant. In order to secure a larger trade, he had last year erected and equipped an up-to-date brick building in Clarksburg, where he was able to handle all the cream that could be obtained. The increasing trade made it advisable to have a partner associated with him, and Mr. W. H. Peterson, whose reputation as an upright, active business man was known throughout the district, had become one of the firm. The nearest creamery was at Owen Sound, thirty miles away, and for a radius of fifteen miles they were gathering cream. It requires a large district to make the business a success. They were favored in the location, as the full loads were drawn mostly down grade to the creamery. It was also noticed in paying out the cheques that the patrons appeared to be well satisfied with the results. He then introduced Mr. Robertson, who gave an interesting talk on the part each patron should take to make the creamery a success for himself. He traced the industry from its infancy to the present, describing the various contrivances used to test the quality of milk and cream until they reached the "Babcock" test, which is acknowledged to be up-to-date, and used in the creamery here. He advised every farmer to keep scales in his stables and weigh the product of every cow, and to dispose of the unprofitable ones. A Babcock tester costs five dollars, and is a good investment for the owner of a dairy herd. Agents for cream separators were largely responsible for many farmers neglecting to keep a supply of ice in the summer, but while a less quantity is required than formerly, still the best results cannot be obtained without its use. Separators were not always properly used, and Mr. Robertson gave minute instructions on this point; 100 per cent. of butter-fat should produce from 110 to 116 pounds of butter. Many questions were asked and much information derived in this way. After the address a photograph was taken, and later on refreshments provided by Messrs. Metcalf and Peterson, including strawberries and cream, were served on the lawn, when a pleasant and instructive afternoon was brought to a close.

GARDEN & ORCHARD.

MAINE POMOLOGISTS IN SUMMER SESSION.

AN EX-CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST AND FARMER

At the last annual session of the Maine Pomological Society a new President was elected, William Craig, a son of Canadian extraction. This gentleman, who came from Canada, purchased a farm on the shore of Lake Auburn, where he started to make just such a model home as he had left behind when he crossed the line. He was accompanied by his sister, Miss Craig, a son and a nephew. Since taking possession, he has made many improvements, as he believes he should do, in the corner of the earth he calls home. The farm embraces 160 acres, and 22 are in orchard. He has set trees each year since taking up his residence on the place, this year purchasing 2,000, part McIntosh Red and part Baldwin.

An enthusiast in his line, he appointed a summer field meeting of the society of which he is president, on the point at Sunny Beach Farm, as he has christened his holdings, and here, on July 1st, some 250 people congregated to enjoy a picnic and listen to a fine programme. The morning session was held in two sections, the ladies remaining in the shady grove bordering the lake, the gentlemen following their genial host over his farm, and discussing various topics of interest to fruit-growers, or observing practical demonstrations in the same line.

THE INTEREST OF COMMON THINGS.

At the ladies' meeting, Mrs. V. P. De Coster, the first speaker, talked upon the common things within the ken of any who will take the trouble to observe them. She urged that this habit of observation be more strongly fostered in our common schools, and at the same time a love of nature be inculcated into the minds of the children, that they the more readily would follow the farm as a life work. Some of the unnecessary things taught in both city and country schools might be dispensed with, and no great loss in practical knowledge be felt. She showed beautiful flowers and several insect mounts, speaking of the habitat of the former and the characteristics of and manner of catching, pressing and mounting the latter.

HOUSEKEEPING SUGGESTIONS.

Miss Anna E. Barrows, of the department of Do-



A Palatial Rural Residence.

Home of Noah Hamilton, Halton Co., Ont.

mestic Science at Columbia University, N.Y., endorsed the views of the previous speaker relative to school work; encouraged the book habit, fostered by travelling libraries and women's clubs; urged greater simplicity in the furnishings of the home; more and better kitchen conveniences in the farm homes, and a more general use of fruit. She also gave a few hints as to preparation of dried fruit for table use, recommending extreme care in washing it, and some directions in preserving fresh fruit. Sterilizing both fruit and can, and keeping out bacteria, tended to indefinite preservation of fruit. If it were to be dried, all water must be removed; if preserved or canned, the water must be shut away from the air.

Roses and their culture was touched upon by the next speaker, Mrs. D. W. Kingsley, who spoke especially of the varieties that used to grace the gardens of our grandmothers.

THINNING AND PRUNING FRUIT.

Among the hints gleaned in the orchard and dropped by Prof. Herman Beckenstrater, Horticulturist of the University of Maine, were the following on thinning and pruning:—

Thinning resulted in a better grade of fruit, especially if the tree be overloaded. All the imperfect and undersized specimens should be cut off. This should be done just after the "June drop," and before the first of July. Pruning late in the season unbalances the tree, as the new growth induced would not harden up before cold weather, and the tree was liable to winter-kill. Severe pruning induced a heavy wood growth rather than fruit production. This was what was wanted when the object was reinvigoration of an old tree. Later the new growth should be pruned for fruit production. A tree should be pruned a little every

year, and enough vigorous "suckers," so situated as to preserve the correct form of the tree, should be left to offset the cutting away of the old wood.

A gas sprayer was in operation during the forenoon, to demonstrate the practical side of this treatment.

After a fine picnic dinner under the trees, the meeting was again called to order, and a few remarks by Mr. Craig in explanation of the needs of the society, among which is a State Experimental Farm, were first in order. He also referred to the fact that many orchards yielded returns as high as \$700 per acre. He had a corner where the yield was at the rate of \$600 per acre, and advised that, with the proper treatment, many more orchards would do the same.

RENOVATING OLD ORCHARDS.

Prof. Beckenstrater spoke on renovating old orchards. While all orchards did not reach the state of barrenness via the same route, and it behooved each owner to study causes leading to the condition—or, in other words, solve his own problem—yet, in general, the reasons were old age, parasites, lack of care, and depletion of soil fertility. To reinvigorate, he suggested reducing the number of trees if overcrowded, draining wet lands, pruning thoroughly, removing old bark and diseased portions of trunk and limbs, spraying, putting in practice a system of tillage, using cover crops, and enriching the soil. These suggestions followed out would increase the productiveness of an old orchard, and were the highway to success in setting out a young one.

STRAWBERRY WEEVIL.

Miss Edith Patch, the Maine Experiment Station Entomologist, gave a short talk on the strawberry weevil, which lays its eggs in the pollen of perfect varieties of the berry; the insect hatching out bites the stem of the blossom, causing the cluster to break off. Planting more of the pistillate varieties, with only enough of the perfect kinds for fertilizing, was one remedy suggested. Another was covering the plants with a box, over which cheese-cloth was tightly drawn. This would have the effect of ripening the berries earlier.

TARDY RESULTS OF WINTER INJURY.

From the remarks of Prof. E. S. Hitchings, it was learned that many trees in orchards which had apparently escaped the ravages of the severe winter of a few seasons ago were now dying after having blossomed freely and given promise of a large yield of fruit. This, too, was happening in orchards which had received cultivation and been liberally fertilized. The prime cause dated back to the freeze referred to, the trees not having been properly doctored. All places where the bark had split or become diseased should have been scraped or cut away, sprayed and painted to prevent the entrance of canker, or kindred evils. Prof. Hitchings was inclined to take an optimistic view of the fruit industry, and urged apple-growers not to get discouraged, as such a year had not been known before, and very likely would not again visit the State. He would plant a pomace of Northern Spy or Talman Sweet, grafting the trees thus raised to the desired variety, for this stock would prove hardy and able to withstand the rigors of Maine climate. The gentleman criticised the method of inspection in vogue in other States, and said that much of the stock coming into Maine under certificate was both diseased and infected, as he had been frequently called to pass upon it by purchasers.

GRADING ACCORDING TO CANADIAN FRUIT-MARKS ACT.

From Prof. W. J. Morse, Vegetable Pathologist of the Maine Experiment Station, it was gathered that much interest in the diseases of apples was developing in his domain; also that spraying would greatly increase the apple crop, as well as improve it, and be the means of successfully handling the most of the troubles affecting fruit at the present time.

A co-operative society for marketing apples has been formed in this section. The fruit is to be grown according to the latest advices, and packed and graded according to the Canadian Fruit Marks Act. Several spoke endorsing the move.

M. B. AIKEN.

TO DESTROY ANTS.

I have a hedge-fence, what they call the honey-locust hedge, along the front of my farm. It has been in for about fifteen years. Inside of this last few years, the bank on which it grows has become infested with ants, which threaten to kill the trees. Is there any way to destroy these pests?

J. N.

The ants themselves are not likely to directly injure the honey locust, but their burrows affect the vigor of the trees, as they draw away moisture from the roots and produce an unhealthy condition. Frequently, too, they harbor plant lice, which suck the juices of the rootlets. If the nests are large hills, made by a fair-sized black ant, they may be destroyed by treating them at dusk in the evening with bisulphide of carbon: about an ounce will suffice for a large nest. Just before dusk, when the ants are all at home, the bisulphide should be poured into the openings, or, if they are closed, into holes made by a slender stick. After pouring in the liquid, the openings should be closed, by rubbing with the foot, so as to prevent the escape of gas. This will penetrate