

## NOTES AND COMMENTS.

to Halifax; Chicoutimi to Quebec by rail and also by steamer. This completes a network of rails over which cold storage trains will be run throughout the season.

It is evident, therefore, that opportunity will be given for fruit shipments from all quarters, in addition to the regular weekly carload which the Department will forward from Grimsby. This latter will be necessary in order to thoroughly test the English market for our tender fruits, and the results will be fully made known as a guide to fruit growers in all parts of Canada.

SPECIAL PACKAGES are being prepared at Grimsby for use in exporting tender fruits in cold storage cars to Great Britain. The basis of the package is the apple box, which is two cubic feet, outside measurement. Inside this trays are fitted, to hold one layer each of choice peaches, or tomatoes.

AERATION SYSTEM.—We have received a pamphlet and letter from Mr. R. M. Pancoast, of Camden, N.J., regarding a new system which he has invented of saving fruit from decay in shipment by a constant and free circulation of pure air. It has already been demonstrated that this process does restrain waste in many fruits, and it reminds us of the Perkins system of which we have read so much.

THE RUSSIAN BALDWIN is commended by Dr. Hoskins of Newport, Vt., as very promising on account of hardiness, perfection of fruit, and wide spread usefulness for both growers and consumers. He is himself planting 2000 trees of this variety. It was the Doctor who introduced the Yellow Transparent and Scott's Winter to general notice.

INSTRUCTIONS IN SPRAYING, is the title of bulletin 105 from the O. A. C.

Guelph, by Prof. J. H. Panton. This is free on application to the Department of Agriculture, Toronto. It gives recipes for the various mixtures, and for the treatment of the various insects and fungi affecting fruits.

FRUIT GROWERS may think that undue prominence is being given floriculture by this Journal, indeed several complaints of this kind have been received. We may explain that our new Horticultural Societies have requested greater attention to floriculture and we have endeavored to meet their wishes. On the other hand our fruit growers may count upon as much matter as ever, bearing on that business. We expect to continue enlarging this journal until we have in it abundance of matter to please both classes of patrons.

THE PROSPECTS are bright so far for the fruit grower in 1897, but he need not count too soon. The peaches have blossomed abundantly in the Niagara peninsula, but some report that the leaves are affected with curl leaf and that the fruit is dropping fast, pears show well even Bartlett's which bore abundantly last year, cherries are full and setting unusually well. But what surprises us most is the promise of a fairly good apple crop, notwithstanding the over abundance of last year. The Baldwins will be very light, and many orchards almost bare of fruit. Greenings will be much better, while Cranberry Pippins, Spys and Roxbury Russetts promise an abundant crop.

In about a month, when the fruit has begun to grow, and nature's thinning out has taken place, together with a possible touch of Jack Frost's fingers, we can report more positively. In the meantime we ask our readers in various sections to write us brief notes on the fruit crop about the middle of June, so as to be in time for July number.