

industry to-day is being fostered by the Government, and will, no doubt, in time rival the cheese export, and why cannot we, the fruit producers of our country, claim some share in that policy, carried on by the Government of our country, towards opening up new markets and making known their good quality? While the Government is framing its policy in the interests of the people, and thus fully recognize the importance of the agricultural and horticultural interests in our land, might we not ask them to place, not one big specimen, as they are doing in cheese, but one reasonably large consignment in some of those markets that as yet have not been cultivated in order that the size, color and quality of fruit might win for us a wider market?

I referred, last year, to my work in connection with the Ontario Fruit Exhibit for the World's Fair, giving a short description of the initiatory work then completed; I desire now to briefly refer to the continuation of that work and the final result as described by the judges at the close of their labors.

On the 25th day of March last, I issued a circular to the Fruit Growers of Ontario through the channel of our Farmers' Institutes and Fruit Growers' Associations, urging them to take some united action in their separate localities, whereby their fruits might be fairly represented at the World's Fair, pointing out what seemed to me to be the most simple and at the same time most economical and effective plan I could suggest. In answer to this appeal I received a large number of very encouraging replies. I then had some two hundred cases made of convenient size for shipping fresh fruits in their best condition; these were forwarded to those points where action was being taken; they were filled with packing material and also a circular of instruction, how to pack and ship, together with forms of invoice, address cards, etc. These were returned again from time to time and served a very good purpose. I also pointed out in this circular that the quantity need not be so large, but the quality and regularity of shipments most important. I can now, as the representative of the fruit interests of Ontario on that occasion, tender my most hearty thanks to those who so nobly and patriotically, with the choicest fruits of their locality, assisted me to carry the horticultural banner of our province to such a successful issue, and that at perhaps the greatest exhibition of fruit the world has ever seen brought together.

I think, sir, it will be readily conceded that Ontario had the largest exhibit of fruit, scored the largest number of points, rated the highest as to quality, of any exhibit on the grounds; and in order to make room for our display several States generously contributed a portion of their space. Washington Territory allowed us some forty feet along the centre passage; South Dakota, twelve feet, and the North-west Territories some thirty feet, all of which was filled to repletion by the generous contributions of the fruit growers of Ontario.

I would like very much to give in detail a description of the various exhibits made, covering the whole of this North American continent, and showing wherein our country possesses superior advantages to many; this I shall try to do at a later period, as time will not permit me to do so now.

I wish now to call your attention to the wide range of varieties embraced not only in our fruits in solution, but in fresh fruits collected from nearly every part of our province, and to the prompt realization of the object we sought to attain, calling

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