

worthy of trial in southern sections of the province as a choice dessert apple. Another variety mentioned was Minkler, originated a number of years ago in Ill. This is apparently a very productive variety, of medium size, and good quality, and is a long keeper. On account of its lateness in taking on color in the fall and its dull red color when matured, it probably would not compete in the market with higher colored varieties.

Reference was also made to the Spencer Seedless Apple and the statement made that in our province, where we have so many fruit expt. stas. to thoroughly test such new varieties before they are offered to the public, it would be folly for growers to invest in new varieties of this kind until they have been tested and reported upon.

#### THE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT

Representatives from the various cooperative fruit growers' assns. in the province, reported on the progress that is being made in the movement. The character of the reports gave evidence of the value of cooperation. Arkona reported that the assn. started 2 years ago with 8 members and shipped 1 carload. This year, they shipped 1,400 bbls., and realized satisfactory returns. The members of the assn. are well pleased with their success. The Burlington assn. has had good success, and has done good work for its members. Belleville, a new assn., is well pleased with the progress that has been made during its first season.

The assn. at Forest has been in existence for 3 years and has a membership of 30. Much progress has been made in the growing, packing and marketing of fruits. A change in orchard methods through cooperating has made it possible for the members to produce in quantity, fruit of superior quality. Forest has received satisfactory returns for fruit this year. They have consigned principally to the Old Country. The Ilderton F. G. A. reported by letter and stated its satisfaction with the cooperative movement.

The assn. at Newcastle has had a successful season. The fruit was sold to a dealer who was erecting a cold storage warehouse. It averaged \$2.25 a bbl. By cooperation, the orchards of the members have been well cared for, the quality of the fruit has been improved. It is proposed to increase the membership and probably to form a joint-stock company. A storehouse will be built in which the assn. intends to place its apples if a satisfactory price cannot be secured early in the season.

The Oshawa assn. reported that its first object is to secure a reasonable price to the grower for his fruit. During the past season, a good example of the value of cooperation was furnished. Some orchards of the members netted \$1.30 to \$1.70 a bbl., while neighboring orchards not in the assn. sold for 50 cts. a bbl. Oshawa has received returns from 800 or 900 bbls. The sales have been satisfactory. The consignments have brought practically the price asked for sales. The cooperative movement is not without its troubles. A few growers picked their fruit before it was ready. Another difficulty is the persistent efforts of apple operators to buy from members of the assn. with a view to breaking up the organization.

During the past season, the assn. at St. Catharines shipped about 160 cars, of which 60 were sold f. o. b., and netted a little over \$30,000. Many of the cars were sold to commission men in the west. Members of the assn. cooperate in purchasing baskets, spraying materials and other supplies. They bought one car of fruit packages from B.C.

The Simcoe assn. comprises about 20 members and has done excellent work. They refused admittance to growers who would not agree to spray 4 times during the season. The result has been a marked improvement in the orchards and fruit of that vicinity. Some men who refused to comply with the requirements are now sorry. Fruit of the assn. has brought good

prices. They intend building a storehouse and evaporator.

Many members of the Trenton assn. are now getting as much for their early fruit as they used to realize on their whole crop. One man who formerly got no more than \$20 for his orchard, received \$50 for it since he joined the assn. Another grower who had never realized more than \$50 for his orchard, received \$70 this year for his early fruit and still has 100 bbls. in storage. The assn. assigned one lot of fruit that netted \$2.55 a bbl. Most of their winter fruit is in storage.

The secretary of the Ont. Cooperative F. G. A. referred to its recent organization. Cooperation among the cooperative assns. is a movement in the right direction. Through the central organization, the various local assns. are kept continually in touch with each other. They are given information each week regarding what the others are doing. From the central office, reports on crop conditions and prices are disseminated. As the provincial assn. is comparatively new, it has not attempted anything radical in the way of improving the conditions of the affiliated assns. It has been moving slowly, with a view to looking into the possibilities. Next year, through the provincial organization, it is possible for the local assns. to have a man placed in the West and another in England, to look after their interests.

#### MISCELLANEOUS ADDRESSES

Many interesting addresses were delivered, full reports of which will be published in the next issue of THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST. Among them were "Low-headed Peach Orchards," by Chas. F. Hale, Shelby, Mich.; "The San Jose Scale," by Prof. P. J. Parrot, Geneva exp. sta.; "Future of the Apple in Ontario," A. McNeill, Chief, Fruit Div., Ottawa; "Markets of the North-West," Robert Thompson, St. Catharines; "Protecting Trees from Mice and Rabbits," W. T. Macoun, Ottawa; and "The Strawberry," W. F. W. Fisher, Burlington.

The Min. of Agr. for Ont., Hon. Nelson Monteith, addressed the convention and spoke of the apparent decadence of the apple industry in various sections of the province, due largely to lack of care and attention. He said that the O. F. G. A. should do a little missionary work in the way of teaching the owners of such orchards how to improve them. Fruit growing makes farm life more attractive and should be encouraged. Its influence tends to keep the boys and girls on the farm. Ont. should be the banner province in fruit growing. The maintenance of her reputation depends upon cooperation. The minister pointed out the fact that quality counts for more to-day than ever it did in the past. The moral is, produce the best.

At the evening meeting, Nov. 7, Prof. H. L. Hutt, of the O.A.C., Guelph, took the audience on an imaginary trip throughout the length and breadth of the province to the homes of many prominent fruit growers. By means of lime-light views and appropriate remarks, the Prof. showed scenes and described in an interesting way the homes and orchards of leading fruit men from the Niagara River and the St. Lawrence Valley to Algoma and the Muskoka Lakes.

#### Fruit Packages in B.C.

W. J. Brandrith, Ladner

A meeting of B.C.F.G.A. delegates from the various sections of the province was held in Vancouver on Nov. 2, to discuss the fruit package question. It was unanimously agreed that the 4-5 qt. box should be  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times 2$  inches, and that the 2-5 qt. box should be  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times 1$  inch, and that the crates to hold these sizes should be the only ones manufactured. It was also decided that the box known as the "Oregon Cherry Box" be adopted for sweet cherries, and that the 4-5 qt. berry crate be adopted for sour cherries; that the plum

crate now in use be adopted, and that a box  $18 \times 11 \times 8\frac{1}{2}$  inches be adopted for pears, and that a half box for pears shall be  $18 \times 11 \times 4$  inches; and that the pear and  $\frac{1}{2}$  pear box be used for crab apples. A resolution was passed, also, asking the Dom. Govt. to legalize the apple box for home use, as well as for export.

At a meeting of the executive committee held on Nov. 3, it was decided to hold the annual meeting in Nelson, B.C., on Jan. 23 and 24. The secretary was instructed to procure a sufficient quantity of spraying materials for the coming season.

#### Nova Scotia Convention

The annual convention of the N. S. F. G. A. will be held at Wolfville, on Dec. 12, 13 and 14. An interesting meeting is expected. Mr. A. McNeill, Chief, Fruit Div., Ottawa, will speak on "Horticulture in Nation Building" and "Orchard Management." Mr. W. T. Macoun, Horticulturist, C.E.F., Ottawa, will discuss various horticultural questions. Prof. F. C. Sears, Truro, will discuss "Spraying" and other topics of interest to fruit growers. Cooperation will receive full attention.

An exhibition of winter fruits on plates and in barrels and boxes will be shown. This will add much to the general interest of the convention. Fruit growers, not only in N. S., but from the other provinces, are invited to attend.

#### Montreal Fruit Trade Notes

E. H. Wartman, D.F.I.

The handling of fruits from boats and railroads is not yet perfect. Barrels and boxes are not only broken by careless handlers, but are "pilfered"—leaving the barrels slack. Think of a barrel of Kings landing at steamer sheds for export, head broken to pieces and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pecks of the fruit taken out. This barrel, if landed in sound condition, would have brought 24s., but as it is 16s.—a loss of \$2. The checkers at steamers would sign teamster's check 1bbl. slack"; but, who should pay to the shipper the \$2 loss? I would like to carry a rubber stamp and have the authority of the Dominion Dept. to brand such broken, pilfered packages, "Pilfered and broken—not to go forward," and to notify shipper of same, so that he might collect for packages so rascally used.

Apples in our standard export boxes are thrown down instead of being laid down. Inspectors soon stop such work when on the spot. They have saved shippers hundreds of dollars, but, there are times when these goods are arriving at 3, 4, or 5 o'clock a.m., that we cannot be expected to be around after a hard day's work up to 12 o'clock the previous night.

Our shipments from this port are probably 75,000 bbls. short of last year to date. The fruit is in the country yet. Before the beginning of navigation next May the aggregate will total a large number.

Shippers are wise in not filling the last steamers full of apples. As the season for this fruit is a long one and the apple is a general favorite, we may look for good profits by keeping the ball rolling not too fast.

In a few cases No. 1 Fameuse have sold in 5 bbl. lots in this city already at \$6 a bbl.

#### Important Announcement

In the House of Commons, on Nov. 26, the Hon. Sidney Fisher, Min. of Agr., intimated that an item would be placed in the estimates to encourage the establishment of cold storage warehouses throughout Canada. The proposition is to secure the equipment and establishment of cold storage plants where the conditions of trade seem to justify.

Mr. Fisher asked his colleagues to put in the estimates an item which would bring about the desired results. In a few days the estimates will be placed upon the table of the House.