

Open Letters.

The Apple Crop of 1900.

Messrs. Simons, Shuttleworth & Co., of Liverpool, write as follows regarding the current season's apple crop:

SIR,—Following our usual custom at this time of the year, we now beg to put before shippers our estimate of this year's crop, as gathered by representatives, who have just finished their travels through the apple growing districts of America and Europe.

It appears unnecessary for us to put this information into an extended report. Taking America as a whole, the present indications are for a record crop of good quality, not excepting the phenomenal one of 1896. In saying this it must not be understood that there are no sections where apples are light and quality poor; there are spots where these conditions exist. The crop in Great Britain and on the Continent of Europe is also very large and of good quality. On both continents some varieties of fruit, where trees are heavily loaded, will be undersized, but otherwise clean and bright, particularly so where cultivation and spraying have been properly done.

The problem presenting itself for solution, therefore, is, "How can this large crop of apples be marketed to the best advantage?" The law of supply and demand ought to regulate prices every season, although as a matter of fact, from a shipper's standpoint, it rarely does. In view of this year's crop prices must necessarily rule correspondingly low.

While advising the utmost caution on the part of intending shippers, yet, owing to the superior quality of the American and Canadian product, we believe there will be times when large supplies of good, well-packed fruit will meet with an active demand, at fairly moderate prices.

The importance of a wide and rapid distribution into the hands of consumers will be apparent to everyone—growers as well as shippers—and in connection with this feature of the trade we may say that during the season of 1896 we handled over 650,000 barrels of Americans and Canadians alone, and this year we have made preparations for the handling of an almost unlimited number with the greatest possible dispatch, without unduly taxing our facilities. As soon as the fruit is sold we cable the net proceeds so that our shippers may have their money in hand within a very short time.

A Good Advertising Medium.

The circulation of the Canadian Horticulturist certainly covers the Dominion. I have had enquiries for cacti from British Columbia to Nova Scotia, and as far south as Connecticut, U. S., all as a direct result of my advt. in the Horticulturist. Substantial orders have resulted, and it is a surprise to me to find so many interested cacti collectors in Canada. Your columns surely succeed in reaching the flower lovers all over the country.

Woodstock.

J. H. CALLENDER.

Our Affiliated Societies.

LONDON—Three thousand people saw the flower show at the City Hall yesterday and last night. The crush was greatest in the evening. So many sightseers turned out to see the exhibition by gaslight that it became necessary to increase the available floor space by removing some of the foliage plants altogether.

The show has been a success beyond the dreams of the London Horticultural Society, the directors of which had evolved the idea of holding the mid-summer exhibit. Not alone was the attendance far beyond what had been anticipated, but the exhibition was declared to be the finest ever held in Ontario. There were upwards of fifteen hundred exhibits of the choicest blooms that are to be found in the gardens of the province. Sweet peas were the feature, but the display of other blooms was not far behind that delicate little flower, the pea, which has been developed until every amateur florist has his row of them.

Judge R. M. Meredith's exhibit of sweet peas made yesterday was the finest among the amateurs. His Lordship showed no less than fifty varieties of peas, and had there been space could have added to them.

The City Hall was found too small for the purposes of the exhibition. Many fine blooms were so crowded together their beauty was not done justice to. "Next year we will have the Drill Shed," President Balkwell and Director Hamilton said last night.

So marked has been the success of the exhibition that it is believed that a great impetus to amateur flower growing will result, and that succeeding shows will witness keen competitions. The Horticultural Society is to be congratulated upon the outcome of this undertaking.—Free Press.

PARIS SUMMER FLOWER SHOW—The Paris Horticultural Society is to be congratulated on the success of its first attempt at providing a flower show for the citizens of Paris on Thursday last, August 9th. A large marquee was erected on the lawn of the Congregational Church, and this was filled from end to end with flowers and plants of every description. To particularize would be a hard matter, but special mention may be made of the exhibits of Messrs. Baird, Wickson, McCormick and Miss Burshall. In the