

the West would have been able to visit us there in that part of our Province, to which I myself belong, and we expected to show a fine exhibit of fruit to them. But unfortunately, for one reason or another none of our Directors from the Western part of the Province had found it possible to attend the convention, and we were sorry for it, because Professor Craig, of the Experimental Farm at Ottawa and Mr. Dunlop, our Secretary—two good men in their line—were rather surprised to see such a good exhibit of fruit in that district. We had forty varieties of apples, fifteen varieties of plums, seven of cherries, and were able even to show at that meeting on the 27th of September, owing to the difference of climate between there and the West, a variety of gooseberry, the Downing; 2 varieties of currants, Lee's prolific and Versailles; 1 variety of White Raspberries; 1 of strawberries, the White Alpine—all picked from the bush the day before. The judges were rather surprised to see these small fruits so late in the season. If I mention this, it is simply to show what the prospects are for fruit-growing in our district. We can come on the market with certain varieties after the season is over in the West, and thus make the market last longer for certain varieties which are always looked for, such as good summer apples and these small fruits which are all marketed in the West in June, July and August. These we have in August and September in our district. I shall be able to show you to-morrow, in a paper which I have prepared on cherry culture, that we can have cherries in our district from the 1st of July to the 1st of September. Even on the 27th of September last year, we could show at St. Roch des Aulnaies cherries growing on the tree of very good quality. In our Province there are many districts quite different one from the other as regards climate, and it is the duty of our Society to find out the wants and requirements of all these districts. I know, for instance, the Chicoutimi and Lake St. John district, where it was thought, a few years ago, that no fruit could grow. Last fall at St. Jean Port-Joli we have seen some specimens of apples grown there, which show that some work is done in that direction, and it should be our endeavour to find out what kinds of fruit will suit that locality, especially what kinds of plums and cherries, the cultivation of which has so far been a failure in that section. Then we have the northern parts of the Province. We must find out what fruits will grow there; and I am sure, if we work hard on these lines we shall succeed in enabling the farmers in every part of our Province to grow some fruits, if not from a commercial point of view, at any rate for family use. We have to work on new ground, and new ground is always good ground to work in, because it is not exhausted. We have to follow out in that line what was done before. We propose to follow the example set by the Province of Ontario. Some of the best work done in that Province was done by means of what they called their Fruit Experimental Stations. That system has been working there only three years, and the Assistant Commissioner of Agriculture of Ontario says it is the best piece of work ever done by the Fruit-Growers' Associations of that Province. These stations are established in various parts of the Province, and are now eight in number. The Society chooses a farmer in one district who knows something about fruit-culture, and who has a good orchard, and gives him something like \$100 or \$150 a year and gives him some trees of various kinds. In one station apples are grown, in another plums, in another cherries, in another small fruit; they try all the varieties known in the

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