

every one of those plates, and the judge should write on that card in plain language that they are ringed grapes; for if the public passing by the tables and seeing the work that you have left behind you, all the finest plates upon the table ruled out, want to know what is the matter? They will tell you at once you do not understand your business. The plates look a great deal better than those you have given the prizes to. Now, here you are educating the people. Let us do it properly if you are going to do it; let ringed grapes be plainly marked so that people can see why judges rule them out. In an exhibition to show what we can produce in this country I don't know that you should rule out ringed grapes any more than you would an animal that was overly fat. You see lots of animals shown at these exhibitions that we know are too fat for breeding purposes, and your ringed grapes come the same way—they are a little too large in size to have that quality and flavor that is so desirable. If we look at the exhibitions as an educational institution, let us encourage them along the educational lines as much as we can, and give a go-as-you-please class for Societies, requiring that every fruit in it be correctly named. Then if we protect the individual grower that has to come in competition with this class of exhibitors I think you will come pretty nearly to the right thing.

M. PETTIT (Winona); I have judged grapes for the last fifteen or twenty years, and I defy any man to say in every instance whether grapes have been ringed or not. If a vine has been ringed very early the grape will appear very bloated and the flavor insipid, but if you ring it later on you will increase the size and color and no judge can tell whether it has been ringed or not, there are so many degrees of it, depending on the time and the season at which the vine has been ringed. The prize list says "the best." My experience in judging and working with other judges is that those very large overgrown grapes do not always get the prize. For my own part I very often go for throwing them out where there are better flavored and nice even grapes in the same class, and I have just made it stand that way. It works all right. We show people fine fruit, and if the judges do their duty they go there and show the people what good fruit is, and the kind of fruit that should be put upon the market and upon the tables should be well colored, well flavored fruit. (Applause.)

Mr. BURRELL: I do not think it is quite fair to argue, as Mr. Huggard and Mr. Pettit did, that ringing was a sort of natural process. I don't care whether grapes are ringed or not in Toronto Fair as long as everybody is allowed to exhibit them; but the ringing of grapes is not a normal process like the thinning of fruit, or the fattening of cattle. If I were to use a comparison I would say, suppose an animal eats a bushel of grain and gets very fat, but it is going to die in twenty minutes, it would not be fair to exhibit it. It is not a normal or healthy process.

Mr. McNEILL: Nor a commercial process.

Mr. BURRELL: No. If they admit ringing, all right, but let everybody ring, because otherwise it is competing on an unfair basis.

The PRESIDENT: Unless you wish to take some definite action on the matter, which I should judge from the discussion could hardly be done, we will have to close the question here. Judges will have to take this matter into consideration, as they always do.

IS FRUIT GROWING CONDUCTIVE TO MORALITY?

By F. G. H. PATTISON, GRIMSBY.

In introducing his paper the writer said: Before reading this paper, I would like to say I do not wish it to be taken too seriously. It has been my misfortune sometimes, notably at Kingston, to have my serious papers taken in a jocular strain. I don't wish that to be taken in an opposite way—that a paper that is intended to be taken in a slightly jocular strain should be regarded from a too serious standpoint. It is peculiarly fortunate

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