

apple were sprayed six times and showed 82 per cent. of clean fruit; those sprayed twice gave 21 per cent. clean, and those unsprayed only 5 per cent. Comment is unnecessary. An estimate of the cost of spraying had been made, and about 11 cents a tree for six sprayings was considered approximately correct.

STRAWBERRIES AND SMALL FRUITS.

Strawberry growers had their innings when Prof. Hutt unfolded his chart, whereon were given the results of the testing of 150 varieties at Guelph. Ranked in the order of their yielding capacity, the first six were Warfield, Afton, Edgar Queen, Bisel, Prize, and Standard. For a late berry Prof. Hutt considered Edgar Queen the best variety. Of the early varieties Van Dieman, Rio, and Michel's Early headed the list.

Mr. Haycock's paper on "Small Fruits" elicited a good deal of opposition. He did not believe in pruning currants and gooseberries, but the experts were all against him.

THE PACKING AND MARKETING OF APPLES.

The apple, of course, received a large share of attention.

Mr. Wartmann thought more care should be taken in the manufacture of the barrels. Buyers in England took 165 lbs. as the standard weight, and where barrels were a little small unfavorable prices would follow. He recommended thicker staves, and thought four hoops better than two. If one breaks the barrel expands, and then "slack" appears in the account sales. He believed that the fruit should be taken from the orchard to a dry, cool building, and allowed to "sweat" before being packed. If, however, packed right after picking, the head of the barrel should be pressed somewhat more firmly than after the "sweating" process. He suggested that all shipping and unloading places should be compelled to provide sacks filled with sawdust on which the barrels could be dropped, thus saving the jarring and shaking which is so injurious.

Mr. L. Woolverton spoke forcibly on "Picking and Packing." We should encourage the idea of a distinctively Canadian stamp, and see to it that the expectation raised by the stamp was not belied by the character of the fruit. As a rule, gathering is not commenced soon enough. The middle of September was usually none too early.

Mr. Boulter said Ontario apples were the best in the world, but people should pack more carefully; the reason why prices were so low was that so much poor fruit was put in the barrel. The grower's name should be on every barrel.

Mr. Dempsey contended that the farmers often packed better than the buyers, and that the former were too often blamed for the sins of the latter.

Mr. R. J. Shepherd, of Montreal, Que., gave a good, sound, practical address on exporting apples. He had met with some success in packing his best apples in boxes holding about a bushel. The boxes were divided by pasteboard like the egg packages; each box taking about 196 apples of No. 1 size and quality. He had secured good prices in England for "Fameuse," also for "Luchess" and "Wealthy." The "Fameuse" was liked better than any other apple in the English market. They preferred the name "Fameuse" to that of "Snow." Both apples are the same variety, and originated in France, whence the seed was brought to Quebec.

MR. FISHER'S ADDRESS.

The Hon. Sydney Fisher, who spoke at considerable length, and who was warmly received, said that he had come for the purpose of finding out from the fruit-growers how he could help them. The Government was anxious to give any legitimate assistance in the way of establishing cold storage, etc. Mr. Fisher thought some of the cold

storage transportation experiments had proved that the barrel was not the ideal package; the low temperature did not reach the centre of the barrel quickly enough. Boxes would possibly prove better in this respect. Next season he hoped would see refrigerator cars adopted over the whole railway system, and large cold storage warehouses established at all the great commercial centres. While the Government would do what it could, people must not imagine that wild and large schemes would be rushed into prematurely. It would be better to go to work slowly and tentatively, and keep what they could gain. He spoke of the great export rush this season, and the consequent raising of freights. Next season a large number of vessels would be attracted this way, and we might look for lower rates.

In the discussion which followed Mr. Craig, of the Experimental Farm, Ottawa, said that for the finer fruits boxes were preferable to baskets, as far as cold storage was concerned. Fruits should not be too ripe when placed in cold storage. The chemical system in cold storage was far ahead of the ice, as far as fruit was concerned.

"ORCHARD COVER CROPS."

Mr. Craig's paper on "Orchard Cover Crops" was full of valuable suggestions. Such crops not only protected the tender roots from injuries by frost, but, when plowed under, improved the mechanical texture of the soil, and added to its fertility. Crimson clover, where it could be successfully grown, was the greatest nitrogen producer. He recommended the Michigan practice of sowing oats with the crimson clover to enable the latter to withstand the winter better.

OTHER ADDRESSES.

Principal Grant, of Queen's College, gave a fine, breezy address.

Professor Knight's address on "Organic Evolution" appeared to be somewhat startlingly suggestive to some, but it met with a very cordial appreciation, and we regret that we have not more space to give to it.

The Hon. John Dryden, in a good, stirring speech, commended the association for the good work it had done, and said his Government would be prepared to further its aims just so long as the association was doing work which was helpful to the whole community.

Mr. Pettit, the retiring president, spoke helpfully and practically in his annual address; and Mr. Wellington, the new president, made a few appropriate remarks.

The personnel of the new directorate is much the same as in the past season. The association closed an eminently successful convention by choosing Waterloo for its meeting place in 1897.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

We have pleasure in presenting to our readers portraits of two of the prominent officers of the association—Mr. Murray Pettit, of Winona, the retiring president, and Mr. Linus Woolverton, M.A., of Grimsby, the secretary; also short sketches of their life and work as fruit-growers.

Mr. Murray Pettit, of Winona, the retiring president of the Ontario Fruit-Growers' Association, is one of the most progressive and best known fruit-growers in the Niagara district. He comes of the good old U.E. Loyalist stock that has bred so many stalwart men for Canada. Soon after the Declaration of Independence his grandfather came to Winona, and there, in 1843, in the old homestead, Mr. Pettit was born. Twenty-five years ago Mr. Pettit commenced his horticultural career by planting a peach orchard of eight acres. But in 1879 that dreadful and dreaded enemy