

## HORTICULTURE

### Ontario's Great Fruit Show

In number of entries and quality of exhibits the eighth annual Ontario Horticultural Exhibition, held in Toronto, November 14 to 17, was the largest, finest and most successful show that has yet been held. Flowers, vegetables and honey made an excellent showing, but the fair this year was essentially a provincial apple show. There were more than twice as many apples on display as last year. If the show continues to grow in the future as it has for the past two years, the St. Lawrence Arena will not be large enough to accommodate the fair in 1912. Even this year some of the county exhibits had to be cut down in size, as there was not room enough to accommodate them.

The passing of the barrel as a package for fancy fruits was in evidence on all sides. A few years ago there

white paper. The apples, particularly the Spys, were of finest quality, and the packing would rank well with anything in the building.

#### A SHIP OF APPLES

The fruit growers of Northumberland and Durham always have an attractive and original exhibit, and they did not fall behind their reputation this year. A steamship made of apples and completely equipped with masts, funnels, decks and rigging was the central feature of their display. Rhode Island Greenings around the base gave the water effect. In the make-up of this boat were 18 barrels of apples. Arranged on either side were 600 boxes of the choice varieties of apples grown in Northumberland and Durham.

To the right of the arena the counties of Norfolk, Elgin, Ontario and Prince Edward had an interesting display of boxed fruit totalling 1,018 boxes. Wentworth County had an attractive exhibit of 119 boxes, and the Georgian Bay District of 140 boxes. This latter exhibit was particularly well packed. Perhaps it was

sweepstakes box was grown and packed by Jas. E. Johnson. The apples were Spys packed on their sides in the 2-3 style.

#### OTHER FRUITS A SMALL DISPLAY

The display of other fruits—grapes, pears and peaches—was small. The hot, dry weather this summer made it almost impossible to hold the fruit over for the exhibition. The weather conditions, however, that had such an unfavorable influence on these exhibits, tended to give the apples an extra high color, and they made the best appearance of any show yet.

Another interesting feature of the fair, especially to the ladies, was the exhibit of preserved fruit, which occupied six long tables. These exhibits are the product of the members of the various women's institutes throughout the province.

The growth of the Ontario Horticultural Exhibition is but a reflection of the interest that is being taken in improved orchard methods throughout the province. The fair of 1910 was twice as great in number of exhibits as that of the preceding year, and this year shows a corresponding growth over last year. If the fair is to adequately represent the fruit growing interests of the province larger quarters must be secured for next year's exhibition.

### Ontario Fruit Growers Meet

Confidence in the continued prosperity of the fruit growing industry in Ontario was the spirit of the last annual convention of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association held in Toronto, November 15 and 16. Overproduction, the bug-a-boo of many of the meetings of the association years ago, was hardly considered worthy of mention at the convention. The members present thought only of working for still greater development of the industry. From the standpoint of business done and resolutions passed the convention this year was the most important in the history of the association.


The dissatisfaction of the fruit growers with the present system of inspection of fruits took form in the following resolution moved by Mr. E. D. Smith of Winona, and seconded by L. A. Hamilton of Lorne Park:

"We strongly urge upon the government that at the request of the shipper an inspector be sent to each point to inspect cars of fruit at the said point and that the said inspector sign a certificate as to the grade of the fruit." Several members pointed out that under the present system of inspection the shipper is practically at the mercy of the buyer. To make it possible to inspect all shipments at points of shipment more qualified inspectors will be needed than are at present employed.

TO PROVIDE FOR PACKING A SCHOOL OF PACKING inspectors, the Ontario Government will be requested to establish an apple packing school at Guelph, and that all inspectors be required to hold a certificate from that school. In order that inspectors might be appointed for their ability rather than their political activity, another resolution urged the Dominion Government to appoint a commission of fruit experts in each of the fruit growing provinces of Canada to examine and recommend men for appointment as inspectors. Another resolution asked that the government be urged to amend the Fruit Marks act so as to establish a minimum size for each variety of apples in each grade of fruit. This would insure uniform packing.

At the last meeting of the association it was strongly urged that inspectors of disease and insect pests on fruit trees should be appointed by the province rather than by township councils. Many of the growers pointed out that while at present some of

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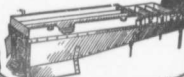


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### Where Ontario Fruit Men Exhibited the Products of Their Skill as Growers

The fruit exhibited at the Ontario Horticultural Exhibition at Toronto last week has never been equalled at any previous Ontario show for quality and color. The exhibits were more than twice as numerous as last year. In the rear of the illustration are seen the exhibits of Lambton, Norfolk, Elgin and Ontario counties. In the front are the cones, single specimens and part of the plate exhibits.

were more barrels than boxes at this fair. This year the number of boxes on exhibit numbered almost 3,000, while in the competitive class for barrel there were only 73 entries and Brant County only had barreled apples in the county displays. The packing of the boxes showed great improvement over last year. In a few exhibits, however, some of the boxes were packed rather loosely, and in the particularly where the "solid side" pack was used, the top layer of fruit was somewhat bruised.

The influence which the cooperative fruit societies now exert on the fruit industry of Ontario was reflected at this fair. Many of the largest exhibits as well as a good portion of the entries in the competitive classes were exhibited by fruit growers' associations, and most of the prize money went either to associations or to their members.

The strongest feature of the fair were the splendid county exhibits. Lambton county had probably the most striking exhibit of the whole show. On a slanting stage 30 feet high, 16 boxes on end from bottom to top, 22 boxes wide, 353 boxes in all, a huge map of the county was constructed with red apples, the words "Lambton County" standing out in green apples. Lake Huron and the St. Clair River were shown in green apples and the adjoining counties were indicated by apples wrapped in

the best packed exhibit in the arena. A nice arrangement of barrels, boxes, plates and cones, proclaimed to visitors the apple producing possibilities of Brant County. The entire Eastern counties of Ontario had on display 56 boxes of choice McIntosh Red apples.

New Brunswick was the only other province of Canada represented, they having an exhibit of choice dessert apples packed in boxes of the Fameuse, Dudley and McIntosh Red varieties.

In the class calling for the best single specimen of the leading varieties there were 200 entries, as compared with 71 last year. In all competitive classes—boxes, barrels, plates and cones—the entries were 50 per cent greater than before. Prominent among the winners in the barrel and box classes were the Norfolk Fruit Growers' Association; Jas. E. Johnson, Simcoe; Elmer Lick, Ottawa; P. C. Dempsey, Trenton; Isaac Rush, Norwich; Brant County Fruit Growers' Association; W. G. Watson, Dixie; W. L. Hamilton, Collingwood, and Isaac Higgins. For plates of five of the fancy dessert varieties, W. H. Bunting, W. G. Watson, F. G. Stewart, Homer, W. L. Hamilton, Lorne Park, and the Wentworth Fruit Growers' Association were prominent winners. The cones this year were especially good, W. G. Watson getting eight firsts in 12 classes. The