

## HORTICULTURE

### Ontario Horticultural Exhibition

In quality and arrangement the Ontario Horticultural Exhibition this year surpassed in excellence all previous shows held by the Association. The splendid displays of fruit, flowers, vegetables and honey met with the approval of all critics, and served to draw forth expressions of wonder and delight from visitors of other countries who were accustomed to think of Ontario as a land of ice and snow. "It's great! I don't know what you brought me over here for," exclaimed Mr. B. J. Case, President of the New York State Fruit Growers' Association who had come over on request to address the Fruit Growers. "Why the possibilities of Ontario as evidenced by the fruit on exhibition at this Fair are enormous."

A pleasing feature of the show was the large number of excellent entries made by the young fruit growers who had previously never exhibited. As commercial dealers in honey were barred from exhibiting this year the honey exhibit was below the average in size; the quality however was all that could be desired. The showing of vegetables in the words of one of the exhibitors was a "whirlwind." The number of entries in all classes was large and the quality was "the best yet."

#### APPLES

Owing to the short crop in Ontario this season, the number of entries in the competitive classes of apples was not quite so large as last year. Any deficiency in numbers was more than made up for by the exhibits of the various Departments of Agriculture. The box as a package for show fruit was much in evidence. The packing showed decidedly more skill this year than on previous occasions; very few poorly packed boxes were on exhibition.

A house made of apples and exhibited by the Counties of Northumberland and Durham attracted particular attention. An illustration of this unique work appears on this page. This exhibit contained 250 boxes and 70 barrels of No. 1 apples. The roof, pillars and sides of the house were completely covered with apples. On the roof of the house alone were five barrels of No. 1's. The exhibit was sold to go to the London Exposition in 1911. Norfolk County had the largest exhibit of boxed apples ever made in Eastern Canada. In one continuous row were 325 boxes of Norfolk grown apples, the boxes being arranged five deep. By the judicious blending of colors and shades "Norfolk" was spelled along the face of the exhibit.

The splendid results to be obtained by spraying, pruning and cultivation in old, neglected orchards were strikingly illustrated in the display made by the Simcoe County Branch of the Department of Agriculture. All of the apples in this exhibit were from the neglected orchards, which Mr. I. F. Metcalfe had charge of this past season. In the centre of this exhibit were photographs illustrating the orchards before and after pruning. In addition to the main exhibit, entries made by owners of these orchards in the competitive classes secured one first and two seconds on barrels, five firsts and three seconds on boxes, and several firsts and seconds in other classes, these from orchards, which formerly produced No. 2's and culls.

Ontario County had an attractive exhibit of 72 boxes and 30 barrels of apples collected from its orchards. While no demonstration orchards were conducted in this county, Mr. Hare, the Representative is endeavoring to

encourage spraying; he remarked that it was much easier to get exhibition fruit from the sprayed orchards than from these unsprayed.

Prince Edward County, as well as boxed apples, had canned fruit on exhibition. Baked apples were given away to visitors at this exhibit to illustrate the splendid cooking qualities of Prince Edward Talman Sweet. The displays of pears, grapes and boxed peaches, though not large, were of extra good quality.

#### APPLES ORIGINATED IN CANADA

The Dominion Department of Agriculture had on exhibition plates of 20 varieties of commercial apples, which originated in Canada, and 100 seedlings, which had been produced at the Experimental Farm Ottawa. Boxed fruit from Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia were found side by side in the exhibit.

In the competitive classes boxed



Much Credit is due the Men Responsible for this Exhibit

The fruit growers of the united counties of Northumberland and Durham, for their exhibit at Toronto last year, which exhibit is illustrated herewith, are entitled to the highest commendation. Last year with very little outside assistance and with organization, the fruit growers of those counties made their first exhibit at the Ontario Horticultural Exhibition. This year they placed an exhibit, which was the united admiration of all. Fruit growers of other counties, from the success of this exhibit, should be encouraged to take part at future Horticultural Exhibitions.

fruit predominated. According to the judges, the quality of the fruit was just as good if not better than in previous years. There was great improvement in the packing. Professor Crow, Guelph, pointed out to an interested audience some of the defects in packing of the fruit on exhibition. The most desirable styles of packing for commercial shipping were explained. Baldwins predominated in the boxed packages.

There were 55 entries in barrels. Probably the best packed barrel was one shown by the Ottawa Fruit Growers' Association. Mr. P. J. Carey, Dominion Fruit Inspector criticized the barrel packs. The barrel pack, however, is well understood and most of the entries were well packed.

As usual, the St. Catharines Cold Storage Company got first on commercial packages of apples; F. G. Stewart, of Homer, Ont., got second. The awards were the same in display of apples not in commercial packages. Mr. W. F. Kidd, of Simcoe got first in packing. Awards in individual boxes and plates were widely distributed. Many new exhibitors came in for a good share of the prize money in the smaller exhibits. The apple cones were below the average both in number of exhibits and in quality. The displays of pears, grapes and boxed peaches, though not large, were of extra good quality.

### Fruit Growers Meet

If these individuals who consider the rural population of Ontario to be unprogressive and not doing its share in building up the country had been present at the Annual Meeting of the Fruit Growers' Association, held in the Temple Building, Toronto, Nov. 16 and 17, they would have concluded that the members of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario do not belong to that part of the rural community that has been designated as "unprogressive." The various sessions were characterized by the keenest interest from start to finish. Lively discussions followed each address and the president Mr. Jas. E. Johnson had difficulty in keeping the program down to schedule time.

Several important resolutions were brought in and passed. Any alleviation of the transportation problem, the greatest nuisance with which fruit growers have to contend, delays in shipment, carelessness in handling, and pilfering of fruit while in the hands of express companies is causing serious loss to all fruit growers. Mr. W. H. Bunting, chairman of the

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(Continued on page 12)