



The Exhibit of Vegetables was One of the Features of the Ontario Horticultural Exhibition held in Toronto Last Month. A Portion of the Exhibit is here shown. The Quality of the Exhibits was Excellent

James gave an interesting account of the difficulties people living in rural sections in various parts of Europe, such as Sweden, have to contend with in the cultivation of the soil. He believed that were these people to be given information about conditions in Ontario they could be induced to emigrate to this country.

Before the convention closed a resolution was passed urging the Ontario

Government to reserve fifty acres of ground on the Monteith Experimental Farm in New Ontario for the growing of potatoes and to place a suitable man in charge of the work. The Dominion Government was also urged to establish an experiment station in the middle of the clay belt in New Ontario for the growing of grain and vegetables and to distribute the products of this farm to farmers and gardeners at cost prices.

when a variety does well and becomes acclimatized, frequent changes are unnecessary. In northern Sweden, for instance, some varieties of potatoes have been grown for over one hundred years, and are good yet. It may be observed, however, that some experiment stations have found that in working with the product of one tuber, the strain will begin to deteriorate in about twelve years and will not be profitable to grow for more than twenty years at the most. It is different with varieties where the tubers are selected indiscriminately. For instance, I have met in Ontario at least six who have grown one variety of potato for over twenty-five years, and to-day the tubers are as good if not better than at first. This was done in selecting large uniform tubers for seed. Among the varieties so tested were Henron, Empire State, White Elephant and Early Rose. At the experimental farm at Guelph, Prof. Zavitz has been testing several varieties, with ordinary selection, for twelve or thirteen years, and he finds that they continue to improve in both yield and quality.

Since the organization of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association, a systematic effort has been made by potato growers in different parts of Canada to improve the crop by the hill system of selection, either from individual tubers or by selecting them collectively.

As a supplier of potash, the oldest form of fertilizer in use is hardwood ashes.

## New Ontario For Seed Potatoes\*

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THE question has been raised by your association of the possibility of New Ontario proving a good place for growing seed tubers. In order to test the matter, I believe arrangements were made through your secretary this spring to supply half a dozen farmers, three of whom lived in the vicinity of Charlton and the other three in the neighborhood of New Liskeard in New Ontario, with seed tubers of the Early Olive and Green Mountain varieties. When the potatoes arrived some disappointment was expressed in the varieties, and, in two cases, in the quality of the stock; the farmers thought the potatoes very small to send out for seed. However, all six tried the seed and the results were varied.

Such an experiment should prove successful. Many farmers, when changing their seed, procure it from districts located north of them, and if possible from a different soil. Local grown seed is usually better for the locality producing it than seed imported from southern districts. Northern grown seed tends to early maturity. Acting in accordance with this principle, a number of potato growers in England send to Scotland for their seed. Mr. Macoun, the Dominion Horticulturist, has found that seed tubers from the Maritime and western experimental farms, tested at the Central Experimental Farm with their own seed, do much better even the first year.

It is a common practice among farmers to change their seed potatoes frequently. Their idea is that the seed runs out, and so it does, more especially when the small tubers are used. But

\*Extract from a paper read at the annual convention of the Ontario Vegetable Growers' Association, held in Toronto, November 13.