

in guarding the fruit with a long stick, or giving you a hint to move on. I fear that very many exhibit fruit more for the sake of the paltry prize of fifty or twenty-five cents than because they have entered a contest in which forethought, science and skill combine with nature to win praise, admiration and success.

To make an exhibition of fruit educative I would suggest the following :

1st. Revise the prize list by leaving out such kinds as do not possess sufficient merit to deserve general cultivation in that particular district.

2nd. Print in the prize list opposite the name of each kind of fruit a score of merit marks as at present accepted by the Provincial Association of Fruit Growers, basing the award of prizes upon this score.

3rd. Distinguish in the list between summer, fall and winter varieties, and keep them separate on the exhibition tables.

4th. Give exhibitors the option of any six varieties out of the total list of old kinds, subject to the score as printed in the prize list, at the same time increase the value of the prizes for first, second and third in said groups.

5th. Attach a printed label to each plate of fruit in type large enough to be read outside the guard rail.

6th. Engage one qualified judge, who alone will be responsible for the way prizes are given. Pay him for his time and require him to remain with the fruit each day until the close of the fair; to answer questions and give such information as may be required.

7th. Let the Provincial Association request the Government, through the Minister of Agriculture, to send an expert judge of fruit to at least one fall fair in each county annually until each society in turn shall have the benefit of his knowledge and judgment.

8th. Add the names of such new varieties of fruit each year to prize list as shall in the judgment of the Provincial Association deserve a place in the list.

9th. Offer special prizes for new varieties not on the list which are accompanied by a description of their respective merits. The kind of soil where grown, age of tree, or anything else that may entitle it to favorable consideration.

The SECRETARY : I would like to emphasize the point in regard to labelling. One of the difficulties which visitors to many fairs have is to find what the varieties are. They will strain their eyes and necks and with the greatest difficulty try to decipher some very poorly-written names attached to the fruit, and possibly fail after all to make out what they are. One of the benefits of visiting these fairs is to ask about new varieties and become acquainted with them. Therefore some plan should be found by which fruit would be labelled with printed names elevated in such a way that they could be read by every passer-by. I think we should keep very clearly in mind that the object of fairs is educative, to give information, and therefore there should be somebody on hand to answer the questions of visitors in regard to the exhibits in the room.

Mr. BOULTER : At our meeting last night steps were taken that will lead to proper persons being selected as judges at these fairs. Usually some straight-laced fellow is put in charge of the exhibit, whose whole object seems to be to keep visitors moving on. There is no information given at all, and persons are allowed to look only about five minutes before they are asked to move on. Experts should be appointed who could give information. A committee has been appointed to select good judges and recommend them to the Toronto, Ottawa and London exhibitions, and perhaps these recommendations will be extended later on.

Mr. MORDEN : There is a matter that ought to be touched upon more fully, namely, the disappointment that arises from sending out high priced, highly-lauded varieties. We find that people with small lots in towns have them filled up with material that is of no use, and that is taking the place of something that will produce fruit. Farmers are planting new things, unknown, untested, probably good for nothing. At the Nurserymen's Convention at Niagara Falls, N. Y., I urged that no new fruit should be sent out until it had been tested at a large number of independent stations, and if it had merit the orig-