

said applies with about equal force to the other excellent fruit sections of Ontario.

The British Columbia growers deserve their success. They have overcome great difficulties. They have good fruit lands and they are making the fact known to the world. Their government is backing them up energetically. In time our Rip Van Winkles in the East will come to life but in the meantime it is a shame to disturb them.

## A GREAT VICTORY

Fruit and vegetable growers especially but many other classes of the community as well may well congratulate themselves over the great victory that has been won, through the Board of Railway Commissioners, in regard to express rates. The decision of the board is the most important it has ever issued. It supports practically every contention made by the fruit growers when they gave evidence before the commission. The tariffs are declared to be too high and must be reduced, fruit rates between Ontario and the west must be lowered, car-load rates must be provided between all points where fruit and vegetables move or are likely to move, existing forms of contract are unfair to the shippers, the graduated charges on express freight are unjust. Both companies must file new tariffs within the next three months.

Until the new tariffs have been settled it will be impossible to decide how much this victory is going to mean to the fruit and vegetable interests. The development of the fruit trade with the west is certain to increase greatly. Hundreds of thousands of dollars a year more will remain in the hands of the growers. Fruit and vegetable growing will be made more profitable and in consequence a certain increase in production will follow. Together with these benefits must be considered the effect this victory will have in encouraging growers to further unite, even more effectively than they have in the past, in pressing for additional reforms—not necessarily only in railway and express matters but in other directions as well.

Each year the directors of the horticultural societies in Ontario have to face the problem of how they can make their premium lists most attractive, within the limit of their funds, as well as how they can make their meetings more interesting and their exhibitions of greater educational value. Valuable information bearing on these points is brought out each year at the annual convention of the Ontario Horticultural Association but lack of time precludes these matters being discussed as thoroughly as their importance deserves. There is an opportunity here for the performance of good work by the superintendent of horticultural societies. Arrangements might be made with the different societies for the purchase of enough additional copies of all printed material they issue to make it possible to have a copy of each mailed to the secretary of every horticultural society in the province. The expense would be trifling. The benefit derived would be great.

The British Columbia government, not spasmodically, but regularly and persistently exhibits large quantities of British Columbia fruit at the leading Old Country exhibitions. Its main object is not to procure more markets for its fruit but to secure well-to-do settlers for its undeveloped fruit lands. It is succeeding. The tide of immigration to the west, past the fruit lands of the east, proves this. By and by the east will decide to do something.

## Quebec Fruit Growers Discuss Matters

The annual meeting of the Pomological and Fruit Growing Society of the province of Quebec was held at St. Hyacinthe, Que., December 6 and 7. It was attended by many of the leading authorities on fruit growing in the province. The general attendance also was large. Among more prominent people present were Prof. W. S. Blair, of Macdonald College; Dr. C. Gordon Hewitt, Dominion Entomologist; W. T. Macoun, Dominion Horticulturist; R. W. Shepherd, Como; N. E. Jack, Chateauguay Basin; Robert Brodie, Notre Dame de Grace; Rev. H. H. Dickson, Rectory Hill; J. C. Chapais, St. Denis en Bas; Rev. Fathers Leopold and Oliver and Brother Ligouni, of La Trappe; J. M. Misch, M. Byers, Geo. Roach, S. Crawford, of Abbot'sford; Archie Ferguson, Montreal and Peter Reid, secretary, Chateauguay Basin.

### FRUIT EXHIBIT

There was an excellent exhibition of winter fruit grown in the province, com-

### Gratifying Results

"The results from our advertisements in THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST during the past four years have been most gratifying. The success of THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST as an advertising medium is essentially correlated with the excellence of its reading matter, which is appreciated by every intelligent and progressive horticulturist."—Dominion Offices of The Potash Syndicate, Toronto.

prising a large number of cases and barrels of apples and other fruit, as well as over a hundred plates of fruit. There was a large exhibit from the Dominion Department of Agriculture, showing the products of different districts of Canada, while the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa sent thirty plates of choice fruits, most of which had been grown from seedlings.

### OFFICERS ELECTED

The following officers were elected: Hon. patron, Hon. Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture; hon. president, G. Reynaud, La Trappe, Que.; hon. vice-president, Prof. W. S. Blair, Macdonald College; president, Rev. R. H. Dickson, Rectory Hill; vice-president, C. P. Newman, Lachine Locks; secretary-treasurer, Peter Reid, Chateauguay Basin.

Directors:—G. B. Edward, Covey Hill; E. A. Russell, Abbot'sford; G. P. Hitchcock, Massawippi; A. D. Verrault, Village des Aulnaies; Auguste Dupuis, Village des Aulnaies; Robert Brodie, Montreal; Dr. Grignon, Ste. Adele; H. W. Thompson, Hudson Heights and N. E. Jack, Chateauguay Basin.

Executive Committee:—Prof. Blair and Messrs. R. W. Shepherd, C. P. Newman, N. E. Jack, Rev. R. H. Dickson and Peter Reid.

In regard to the appointment of delegates to the Dominion Fruit Conference, next year it was decided that the president and secretary of the association should be delegates ex-officio, and that five others should be sent, including Messrs. Chapais, Dickson, Shepherd, Brodie and Jack. It was also decided that the executive might appoint Mr. Byers and others to attend as representatives of the association apart from the Government invitation.

The usual summer meeting next year will

be held at Inverness during September.

### PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Prof. Blair of Macdonald College, in his presidential address gave a resume of the years' work in fruit growing. He dealt carefully with the surface cultivation, pruning and spraying, and estimated that it would cost at least \$30 a year to keep an orchard in good fruit producing condition. With such treatment he computed that the average profits during the first fifteen producing years should be between \$50 and \$80 an acre, while after that when the trees had reached maturity, the profits should double that amount.

### PEAR CULTURE

Mr. W. T. Macoun gave an elaborate account of pear culture in Quebec Province, reviewing efforts in this direction from the earliest available data. These records showed that pear culture had not been a commercial success in the province, mainly owing to climatic conditions, but also in some degree to the choice of unsuitable varieties. The only variety which had been shown to succeed to any marked degree was the Flemish Beauty.

A paper was read by Mr. L. V. Peron, a student at Macdonald College, on "Orchard Spraying." He went into the details of machinery, spraying mixture, pumps, nozzles and time for spraying, and showed the great improvements that could be made in the productivity of orchards by such treatment.

Prof. Lochhead, of Macdonald College, also read a paper on "Fruit Spurs," giving a study of twig life, and showing the effect of such study on the proper pruning of different varieties.

At the night session an address was given by Dr. C. G. Hewitt, Dominion Entomologist, on "Insect Enemies of Fruit," in which he enumerated the most common pests, and gave advice as to the best methods of exterminating them.

Father Leopold, of La Trappe, read a paper on how to set out an orchard, soil preparation and pruning methods.

Mr. R. W. Shepherd, of Como, described a trip through the Okanagan Valley, Kelowna, and other famous fruit growing districts of British Columbia. Although the results obtained were marvellous Mr. Shepherd did not consider the fruit of equal quality to that produced in Quebec province, although it was generally larger.

### COOPERATION

The advantages of cooperation were pointed out by Mr. R. Brodie, of Montreal, who showed what fruit growers in portions of the United States and in other parts of Canada had accomplished by united effort. Mr. Brodie urged the adoption of cooperative efforts in Quebec but after considerable discussion it was decided that the apple and other fruit growers of this province were too scattered and too prosperous to want any cooperative aid. Quebec, it was declared, had several special advantages. First, it grew such apples as the Fameuse and MacIntosh Red, which were famed all over this country as well as in England, for their unapproachable flavor, and as a result growers this year were able to get four and five dollars a barrel for No. 1 apples. And in addition to this the apple growers of the province not only had the Montreal market anxious to get their best fruit at fancy prices, but had half a million people along the lower St. Lawrence eager to buy their second fruit, at prices which could be secured nowhere else in Canada.

Mr. Shepherd reported that the exhibit of Fameuse and MacIntosh Red apples at