

## HORTICULTURE

### Fruit Men Meet

P. J. Carey, Dom. Fruit Inspector  
About 150 fruit growers met at the orchard of Mr. M. C. Smith, Burlington, on Sept. 7, to discuss orchard practices in general and spraying in particular. It can be safely said that it was the best meeting of its kind ever held in Ontario. Every apple growing county was represented.

After thoroughly going over the Smith orchard which had been sprayed four times with lime-sulphur mixture, we found it difficult to find a single specimen affected with either black spot or codling worm. In the adjoining unsprayed orchard scarcely 10 per cent of No. 1 apples could be found.

The meeting was then addressed by Prof. Crow and Mr. L. Casar of Guelph college; Mr. Kidd, Simcoe; A. W. Peart, P. J. Carey, P. W. Hod-kins, W. H. Hunting and Mr. McKenna. Keen discussion took place along all lines of orchard management. The greatest interest was shown all through and it was the unanimous opinion of those present that no more meetings of this character should be held.

### Comment on Apple Packing

A. B. Clarke, Welland Co. Ont.  
A great advance has been made in apple packing methods during the past seven or eight years. My first experience was with packing in barrels. I also tried shipping in boxes divided like egg crates and found that manner of protecting the fruit to be very efficient. From that time seven years ago until last year I had very little to do with apples except to eat a few which arrived in the north-west, very poorly graded.

Last year I had some experience of packing in boxes at a cooperative cold storage establishment and recognized the advantage of this package over the barrel. Packing in boxes has not, as yet, become general in the east. Box packing is the secret of the success of the British Columbia apple growers. Its adoption in Ontario would be a good move.

PACK AT A CENTRAL POINT  
Not only should a good package be used, but a central packing house should be utilized, where the packing is under the supervision of a good, experienced man. This will insure a uniform pack. The grower should see that his pack is honest and attractive and stamp his package so that the mark can be easily recognized.

Wrapping should pay, especially in the case of fruit for cold storage. I have unwrapped many boxes of apples at the cold storage in Toronto and always found the fruit in extra fine condition.

I would face up all fruit packages. It gives the purchaser a better filled box or basket. He is willing to pay a better price for it on account of its good appearance.

### Prospects for Apples

There has been no improvement in the prospects for apples during the month of August. The apples that are on the trees have grown well and there is a prospect for a medium quantity of very fine fall and winter fruit in all orchards that are reasonably well taken care of, according to the government report from Ottawa. In the orchards where the apples are not well cared for, the codling moth appears to have concentrated upon the few apples that are left. The scale is as bad as usual. There has been a change in individual varieties which will not seriously affect the general

report. The Fameuse in District 4 will be much lighter than was anticipated, and of poor quality. Southern Ontario has harvested a fair crop of good quality, of Red Astrachans.

The crop of winter apples is very light. Only two correspondents in District 1 report a full crop of winter apples. Western Ontario will scarcely have enough apples for home consumption. A few sections, however, may export small quantities of rather poor sample.

The conditions north of Lake Ontario show no improvement in quality, but the quality is somewhat better than was reported last month. Georgian Bay District prospects show no improvement. No correspondent reports a full crop. In Eastern Ontario, the St. Lawrence Valley and the Eastern Townships of Quebec, a falling-off in the quality and quantity is reported as compared with last month. The crop of McIntosh Red, Fameuse and Alexandras will be below the average.

Nova Scotia and New Brunswick show no improvement; the crop of apples will be very light. Prince Edward Island will not supply home demands. British Columbia will harvest the largest crop in its history. Two specimens in some cases are smaller than usual owing to the dry weather. In estimating the quantity of apples, it must be borne in mind that in no part of Canada are there so many orchards coming into bearing as in British Columbia, so that not only the yield per tree is above the average this year, but the bearing acreage has increased proportionately much more.

## POULTRY YARD

### First Cooperative Egg Circles

J. I. Brown, Hochelaga Co., Que.

Some 15 years ago a few of the export merchants of Denmark noticed that they could get a better price for large-sized, evenly-shaped eggs when they could supply quantities of them together. This led them to select and grade their eggs, which were bought from the farmers all at the same price, indiscriminately. The selected eggs realized a better price than the small, ill-shaped, dirty or stained eggs.

Once the demand for these eggs was created on the London market, the Danes were not able to keep pace with the same. This led to the first effort being made to organize co-operative egg circles. At first, the progress made was very slow; it was nevertheless sure and stable. In the course of a few years whole sections had landed themselves together with the one aim and object in view that to get not what they thought the best egg for market, but to get the egg that brought the largest price per dozen on the English market.

The egg most in demand was of the best quality possible. The Danes have made a speciality of studying the market. They have gone so far as to study the exact wants of the consumer and then to supply the article. And this is the key-note to success in any organization of producers in any line.

After the industry had reached certain proportions the Danes found it necessary, in order to obtain the best results, to send one of their own men direct to England to follow the shipments as near as possible to the consumer, and thus be in position to find out if there was any way in which they could improve the delivery or quality of the goods at any time. Ultimately, this meant absolute satisfaction to the consumer and it was not long before any price demanded could be obtained.

Of late years, eggs in Denmark are graded, not only according to size and outward conditions of the shell, but also according to color, as the English market will pay more for a

nice brown egg than they will for a white shelled one. This latter condition, however, does not affect the producer in Canada yet, as we can obtain as much for a white shelled egg as we can for the brown, although it will help the appearance of a case of eggs, a great deal to have the white and the brown separated so that a customer in buying eggs of a first quality flavor may be struck with the appearance as being a uniform lot.

### Hens Eat Their Feathers

My fowl have become addicted to the habit of feather eating. How can I prevent it?—A. G. L. Leeds Co., Ont.

Feather eating is due to lack of exercise. It is most common where fowl are kept in crowded quarters. The habit is usually confined to one or two birds. Unless the birds are very valuable the best thing would be to kill them. Where the bird is sufficiently valuable to try feeding some salt in the mash or soft feed and pare the beaks of the birds addicted to the habit, with a piece of glass.

Pare down close until the raw part of the bill begins to show through. We have found that the best remedy however is to kill the birds.—M. C. Herner, O.A.C., Guelph, Ont.

From the eggs produced by 25 pullets, \$57.44 was realized at a cost of \$24.91, leaving a balance of \$32.53 as payment for services and interest on money invested. The results of this experiment only go to impress those interested in the poultry business with the importance of natural conditions and especially the necessity of fresh air and exercise for the best results. These pullets were not selected according to their parents' egg yield, as may be learned from the fact that the yield ranged from 19 to 211 eggs.—Prof. W. K. Graham, O.A.C.

### The Great Eastern Exhibition

(Continued from page 6)

shire; and J. S. Fearson of Lennoxville.

BROWN SWISS

Considerable interest was shown in two herds of Brown Swiss cattle. One was shown by C. E. Standish, of Ayer Chiff and one by M. Page, of Sherbrooke.

Guernseys were shown by Hon. Sydney Fisher, E. P. Ball and Guy Carr.

Exhibitors of French Canadian cattle included Hon. S. A. Fisher, A. St. Denis, of St. Norbert; P. Sylvestre, Joseph Coulombe, and A. P. Lister. Some very good animals of this breed were shown.

Exhibitors of Herefords included W. G. Draper, of Compton and A. W. Labarre, of Bulwer. Aberdeen Angus were shown by A. G. Spafford, of Compton. Short-horns were shown by H. H. Fuller, of Compton, E. V. Norton, of Cotiacook, J. A. McClary and J. H. M. Parker, Lennoxville, H. A. Elliott, of Danville, and A. S. Lake, Crookshire.

CLYDESDALES

The principal winner in the Clydesdale section was Robt. Ness & Son, of Howick, who brought out some imported and home bred stock of exceptionally fine quality. Other exhibitors were Mr. Victoria Farm and Willowdale Farm, P. Beauchemin, A. B. Lester, A. Hodge and M. R. O'Donnell.

Percherons were shown by R. Ness & Son, O. P. Stratton, R. Marier, E. Malo, A. Hodge, G. Nutbrown, and A. Beauchemin.

A very fine exhibit of Normans and Belgians was made by E. Pootmans, who had imported the animals direct from Belgium. These animals will be shown at the Ottawa exhibition. Spades do not permit of further mention being made of other exhibitors.

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