

trees as the soap, and much cheaper. I am a strong advocate of wood ashes in an orchard on almost all varieties of soils where an orchard can be successfully grown, and a farmer who sells his ashes, and grows an orchard, simply throws away "a pound for a penny."

Of the many varieties tested, I find there are but few that excel the old varieties. For the Canadian market, none that I have found beats the Spy in price. The Stark is comparatively a new apple, which, with us, does better than Baldwin or Greening, and is quite as good in flavor, and a better bearer. The Salome seems to do well, both as a yielder and shipper, but requires very rich land to do its best. It is medium to large, of a beautiful carmine in color, and a good flavor. The Baxter is an excellent apple, being a large red, a good bearer and shipper, and of a good flavor, but it is very subject to scab, and must be sprayed frequently. These, with Spy, Russet, Baldwin and Greening, would make a good commercial orchard, being hardy, and good growers and bearers.

Among pears, Duchess, Precocoe, Pitmaston Duchess, Fertility, Bartlett, Seckel and Bosc, with Clapp's Favorite, Beurre Clairgeau and Seckel, not forgetting Kieffer, would make a good collection for either home or foreign market. In plums, the hardiest and best all-round plum we grow is locally called Vail's Seedling. It resembles Coe's Golden Drop, but is much larger and later. Root cuttings, or sprouts from the roots, always produce the same kind of fruit. Of the Japans, Burbank does best with us, both in size and yield. The Chabot is also a promising variety, being large, hardy and of good quality. These, with early June, Pond's Seedling and Quackenboss, have proved the most profitable, and are fairly hardy here.

In cherries, Louise Phillippe and Montmorency are the best, with the old favorite Kentish.

A very large percentage of apples were lost in this district, owing largely to the low prices offered by exporters, as growers considered fifty cents per barrel was not worth the trouble of handling the crop, but the fact is that for want of a proper system of co-operation by the fruit-growers of the Province, a very serious loss to the district will be sure to follow.

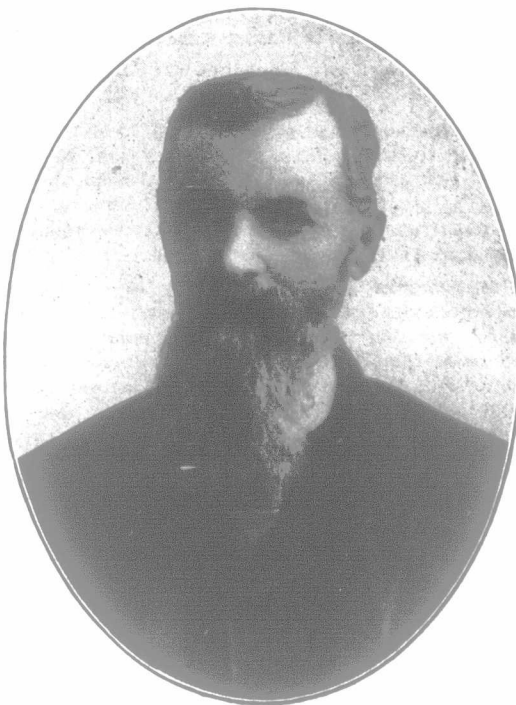
As the business of fruit-growing is largely increasing and developing in Ontario, it is very necessary that a better system of getting our fruits to Europe and the Northwest should be adopted, as the present rate of freights is nearly prohibitive, and it is hoped that ere long the railways will see to it that instead of running long trains of empty cars to Winnipeg and the Northwest, they will have fast-service trains of fruit, which they do not get now, owing to the unfair rates they charge on fruits.

Fruit buds are well developed, and ripened early, so there is a good prospect for next year.

Wishing you all the compliments of the season, and that the "Farmer's Advocate" will still lead the agricultural public.

R. L. HUGGARD.
East Central Experimental Fruit Station, Ontario Co.

Mr. P. Routledge, Ontario Co., Ont., says: "Your premiums are highly satisfactory in every respect."



Mr. R. L. Huggard.

Experimenter in charge of the East Central Ontario Fruit Station at Whitby. Specialties—pears and commercial apples.

Sugar Beets in Huron.

Mr. William Graham, Inspector for the Ontario Sugar Co., is out again taking contracts for the coming year, and is meeting with good success. Among those who raised sugar beets last year, was D. A. Forrester, of Clinton, who had nearly nine acres. Two acres of these were grown on potato ground that gave 26 tons to the acre, testing 16.2% sugar, which netted him \$1.97 per ton on the car after paying freight. Mr. Forrester says the tops of the beets fed to the cattle are equal to a crop of rape, and is safer, for they will not bloat, and they will agree with the cattle. Those who are feeding pulp find it is ahead of turnips for feeding, and will keep an unlimited time. The growing of sugar beets is going to be one of "the" crops in the near future. Mr. Forrester's crop was all good, and he has contracted for fifteen acres for next year. (Clinton New Era.)

The Ontario fruit-growers' division has been awarded the Knight medal for the exhibit of Canadian apples made at the first exhibition of the Royal Horticultural Society in London, on the 14th and 15th of December. The display was made under the auspices of the Fruit Division of the Department of Agriculture, who also secured six diplomas for an exhibit of twenty boxes of fruit from Windsor, N. S.

Mr. John P. Armstrong, Lincoln, Ont., says: "I would like to say for myself that I consider the "Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine" one of the best agricultural papers published, and could not do without it."

NEWS OF THE DAY.

Canadian.

The Canada Carriage Company's factory at Brockville, Ont., has been burned, the loss being \$250,000.

Reverend Dr. Williams, the new bishop of Huron, was consecrated at London, Ont., on January 6th.

Premier Haultain and Mr. Bulger, of the Territorial Government, have arrived in Ottawa to discuss the question of Territorial autonomy with the Dominion authorities.

Several Canadians interested in forestry attended the American Congress of Forestry, held in Washington, D. C., last week. During discussions on the subject the work in forestry done in Ontario was highly eulogized.

The C. P. R. has ordered the building of two new vessels for the Atlantic trade. The ships, which will be the largest to sail up the St. Lawrence River, and are intended to compete with the best liners running into New York, will be built in Glasgow, and will be ready for service in May, 1906.

Mr. W. W. Cory has been appointed Deputy Minister of the Interior, at Ottawa, in the place of Mr. J. A. Smart, who retired from the position recently, in order, so it is understood, to go into business for himself, probably in the Northwest. Mr. Cory has been since 1901 an inspector in the Yukon Territory, and is forty years of age.

An Edmonton despatch says: "The city has received a report re the G. T. P. agreement with Edmonton, from Mayor Short and J. A. Macdougall, the delegates who were sent to Montreal, and have just returned. The city pays \$100,000, and becomes a divisional point, with shops and terminal facilities. The greatest enthusiasm prevails over the result." In Winnipeg one of the newspapers refers to the proposed bonus as a hold-up.

Superintendent Constantine, Northwest Mounted Police, was in Ottawa recently, and had a prolonged interview with the Controller, Lieut.-Col. White, regarding the expedition which will start to open a route from Edmonton to Dawson. After the Edmonton-Dawson route has been opened up, a trail will be established from Chesterfield Inlet, on the Hudson's Bay, to Fort Chipewyan.

British and Foreign.

Rojestvensky's squadron will, in all probability, be speedily recalled to European waters.

Theodore Thomas, the famous orchestra leader, died in Chicago on January 4th.

The Czar has sanctioned the expenditure of \$800,000,000 in rebuilding the navy. The work will, it is expected, be completed in ten years.

A terrific snowstorm, which paralyzed traffic and



Where Small Fruits Flourish—In a Portage la Prairie Raspberry Garden.