

## HORTICULTURE

## Favors a National Apple Show

Editor, Farm and Dairy.—The holding of a Canadian National Apple show in Toronto in the fall of 1911 would be a good thing for the apple industry. It could be held in place of our regular Fruit, Flower and Honey Show. If we decide to hold such a show we should start now. We should get all of our leading apple sections ready to take a hand in exhibiting. We should have at least 25 or 30 card entries of apples promised.

The Dominion and Provincial Government would have to contribute liberally; also the city of Toronto and as many of the counties as could be induced to make grants. A good prize list would have to be worked out. Government and county grants could be supplemented by prizes given by companies interested in supplying goods to our orchardists and by interested friends. I see no reason why Ontario could not work up her share of one of the bonnie apple shows yet held.

—Rolt. Thompson, Pres. St. Catharines Cold Storage Co.

## Destructive Disease of Peaches

"Little peach is a very destructive disease," says Mr. L. Casar, of the Ontario Agricultural College, who has been studying the disease in the peach growing districts of Michigan. The majority of Michigan growers consider it several times more destructive than peach yellow. Wherever affected trees have been allowed to remain, the whole orchard, as a rule, has become hopelessly diseased in four or five years. An expert grower stated that he had himself seen more than 100 orchards thus destroyed. So far as known, no variety of peach tree is exempt. Japanese plums are quite subject to the disease. They must not be overlooked when taking measures for the control of the disease. Little peach attacks trees from two years of age upwards.

In some districts in Ontario little peach has already caused the loss of several orchards and of many trees

in nearby orchards. Every grower is urged to destroy at once every tree marked by the inspector and every suspected tree. There is no use of hoping for the recovery of trees; they never recover from this disease. "Little Peach" has been successfully controlled in Michigan by the removal each year of all suspected trees. It is absolutely necessary to remove the suspicious cases as well as those clearly diseased.

Cooperation in control measures is necessary. Where orchards are close together, as in Ontario peach districts it is imperative. No person can thoroughly control the disease in his own orchard by the removal of diseased trees if his neighbor only a few rods away fails to remove his. If, however, the orchards are half a mile or more apart one may hope to be able to keep his own orchard fairly free from the disease, even independently of his neighbors.

## To Lease Neglected Orchards

A company, backed, it is believed, by English capitalists planning to lease neglected orchards in Ontario. The company proposes to secure neglected orchards. They will pay \$10 to \$25 per acre a year rent for a period of 10 years. The company will take full charge of the orchards, the owner being required, however, to haul the packed apples to the nearest railway station. The owner will be required to do the cultivating for which he will be paid at the rate of \$3 a day.

The company does not expect to get first class orchards at the low figure offered, but there are many neglected orchards in Ontario that do not yield their owners even \$10 a year. In addition: to the amount of the lease, the farmers will be given a splendid demonstration on the proper care of orchards, and their orchards will work more at the end of the 10 years than they are now.

## Pleased with Cooperative Society

Philip A. Greer, Prince Edward Co., Ont.

There has been a great improvement in orchards of the members of our fruit growers' society since organized. Not only in the line of spraying is there an improvement. Better cultural methods have been adopted and the results have been very satisfactory considering that the association was formed only about one year ago.

As a result of our better orchard management the Association apples were the first sold in this section. Buyers who came to this county were particularly anxious to get them.

We use home-made lime-sulphur mixture for all of our sprayings with arsenate of lead for pomon.

## Horticultural Notes

Roy Ellis, of Leamington, who has greenhouses covering  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres, has sold during the present season over \$8,000 worth of vegetables, commencing with cucumbers and ending with tomatoes. The proceeds from a 60 by 100 ft. cucumber bed have been over \$1,200. At the end of the year he will have sold over \$10,000 from his greenhouses. His expenses have been less than \$2,000.

Over \$100,000 was paid by the Norfolk Fruit Growers' Association to the growers this year. The value of the bulk this past season was \$25,000. Speaking to an editor of Farm and Dairy, Mr. Johnson remarked that some of the growers were getting careless in their spraying and will have to be dropped until they improve, as the Norfolk Fruit Growers' Association intend to put up nothing but first-class apples.

## POULTRY YARD

## Poultry Market Conditions in British Columbia

M. A. Jull, B.S.A., Victoria, B.C. British Columbia has always imported large quantities of eggs, and dressed poultry. Victoria and Vancouver annually consume many carloads of broilers and dressed turkeys. Even while the price remains as it is at present, we will probably continue to import for some time. Our high prices however will naturally lead to more attention being given to the poultry industry in this province. Market quotations for dressed poultry throughout British Columbia are 23 to 25 cents a lb. live weight, and from 25 to 28 cents, dressed, for young broilers.

To overcome the undesirable conditions that exist in our industry here we must adopt better methods in selling our produce. We must place our poultry products, both eggs and meat, on the market in better shape. Better satisfaction will be obtained from selling poultry produce from a few large establishments than by the average poultry raiser endeavoring to sell his own produce.

## Comfortable Quarters for Hens

C. H. Welch, Extension Division Minn.

One great essential in getting winter eggs is to make the hens entirely comfortable. The first thing to do is to get busy now and clean out the house thoroughly. Remove every useless article and leave the floors entirely free from dirt and manure that will obstruct their free use of scratching place. Clean down walls; and, if necessary, whitewash or spray boards and make repairs on them and the roosts, so that droppings can be easily removed at all times during the winter. Remove every bit of litter from the floor, and if it is a dirt floor, take out at least a couple of inches of the old dirt, replace this with clean loam. Make ready a corner in each pen that can be used as a dusting box. This can be kept supplied with the fine siftings from hard-core ashes, and will be much enjoyed by the whole flock. If it can be placed where the sun will shine on it, so much the better.

Do not close the windows until the weather gets really cold. Let there be one glass window for each pen of 10 by 12 or 16 feet, and one muslin-covered window for each pen of 12 feet of surface for each pen. This may look like a cold proposition, but it will be found the muslin does not make the pen any colder than does the same amount of glass surface, and at the same time gives a steady supply of fresh air. This muslin will help greatly in keeping the poultry-house dry during the winter, and will make it much more comfortable than a closely shut-up house can ever be.

For colder nights, have a curtain of cheap sheeting running across the front of the roosting space. This can be pulled up tightly, except at the top, and may hang two or three inches from the dropping board, giving plenty of room for the fowls to pass to and from the roosts. On the very coldest of nights the roosting place will be found to be comfortable and in the morning the hens will come out ready to scratch and hustle for their breakfast.

Above all things, be sure to keep a good six inches of perfectly dry straw on the floor, for scratching material. There can be very little comfort for the hen in scratching through a pile of dirty, damp litter that has been on the floor for a month or more.

## Hens that Lay Golden Eggs

Whether you're already in the poultry-raising business or not, expert knowledge of the business is absolutely essential to greatest success. You cannot get this money-making knowledge from a book. It must be imparted to you by experts who have devoted their lives to poultry-raising, and made a success of it.

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