

a stock company. A small percentage of the gross amount of the sales would pay the manager and the rent of a storage house for making up car lots. A large central cold storage warehouse would be an important adjunct and would of course require capital, and those not taking stock in it would of course have to pay for the use of it should they store in it. We presume that several district unions would cover the fruit sections of the province, and the managers of these could agree together on the fixed prices, and thus the output of the whole province would be under control.

What About the Surplus Stock ?

Why, unless it can be sold to canning and evaporating companies it had better waste in the orchard than simply be unloaded on the market and bring down the prices. But, if properly distributed there is room in our own country for all the No. 1 grade of fruit we can grow, and we should spray, prune, thin and cultivate as to avoid wasting the vigor of our trees in producing No. 2 fruit.

Fruit Growers the Last to Unite

It does seem that every other class of men are more ready to unite than fruit growers. Several reasons were suggested, one that they were too selfish to risk another's good for fear it might not prove to their advantage; another that they would not trust each other, but would believe every word of the sleek-tongued commission merchant, who offered them his stamp and promised a good market. Nevertheless it was agreed that the time had come for a union, otherwise the business would be ruined by foolish competition. The manager of a union would be able to avoid all competition by a careful system of distribution, and the expense of the whole business would be a much less percentage than that now paid the commission merchants, while the net returns would in many cases be doubled. Plainly this is the most serious and important ques-

tion before us; let us face it and solve it as quickly as possible.

Early Plums

MR. R. S. EATON, of Kentville, N. S., writes:

Please give me your opinion on the time of ripening and the quality of the new plum, the Emerald, as compared with Abundance and Red June.

Though not as showy a plum as the Japans, and not quite as large, yet the Emerald is, in our opinion, a better dessert plum; while in point of season it is about ten days in advance of either the Abundance or the Red June. We have not yet fully tested it at our stations, so that we are unable to give any very definite reply to our enquirer.

Mr. Murray Pettit, Winona, Our Director for Wentworth, Waterloo, Halton, Etc.

AT a meeting of our Association, held at Wingham in 1885, Mr. Murray Pettit, of Winona, was elected a director of our Association, and has held the position ever since. He was born in 1843 on the old Pettit homestead, near Winona, where in the latter part of the 18th century his grandfather, Mr. John Pettit, a U. E. Loyalist, had received from the crown a grant of 468 acres of land.

Grape Growing

Some thirty years ago Mr. Pettit first turned his attention to the cultivation of the grape, a fruit which in his experience has proved to be a more constant source of revenue than the peach. He was one of the first to plant a vineyard of Niagara grapes, under the original terms of the company, in that each buyer should give in one-half of the proceeds until the company had received \$1.50 per vine. This investment proved a profitable one for Mr. Pettit, the three hundred vines planted in the spring of