

afford the time to wrap tender varieties perhaps they can store them until the bulk of the fall work is over or even until winter, which is the most suitable time from a work point of view. Growers should not fail to

place a piece of paper the same size as the inside of the box, between the apples and excelsior, as by that means the apples will be kept clean and look much better when placed on the market.

APPLE GROWING IN NOVA SCOTIA

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THE conditions under which apples are grown in Nova Scotia are somewhat different to those which prevail in the apple districts of Ontario. On the whole it must be confessed that the growers in Nova Scotia receive higher prices than the Ontario growers, and this is encouraging very large plantings in favorable localities.

The bulk of the fruit is grown in the Cornwallis and Annapolis Valleys, with some excellent smaller sections in the valley of the Gasperaux and in Lunenburg county. The most marked characteristic is the growing of apples to the exclusion of almost all other crops, and hence the resort to artificial fertilizers. The extent to which these are used would seem most extravagant to Ontario farmers. At some of the small railway stations in the Annapolis Valley individual agents report sales to the extent of \$10,000, \$12,000 and \$15,000. I cannot help thinking it a source of danger that the live stock industry is so largely neglected. Clean culture in the orchards prevails, and spraying is more common than in Ontario.

I noted recently, while in Nova Scotia, that in the new plantings winter varieties prevailed almost exclusively. The Baldwin is not a favorite; the Golden Russet, Nonpareil, King, Spy and Blenheim are largely planted. The Stark and Ben Davis have many friends. Among the difficulties must be mentioned the collar rot and canker, diseases more prevalent in the Annapolis valley than in any other section in Canada that I have visited. The ordinary

black knot, apparently, is allowed to develop without let or hindrance, to the great detriment of the plum and cherry industry.

THE TREES ARE VIGOROUS.

The Ontario apple grower might well envy the vigor of the Nova Scotian trees, due in part to the moist climate, but more to the excellent care the trees receive with regard to culture and pruning. High-headed trees are universal; and the Nova Scotian knows no special orchard tool. A number of the orchardists work close to the trees with oxen, but the fact that they require a driver and are very slow bars them out from work for which they are otherwise well suited. Close planting is frequently practiced. Mr. Ralph Eaton, a most progressive and successful fruit grower, has as many as 320 trees to the acre. Though Mr. Eaton has made a success of this method I feel sure he would have done still better with the same number of trees on a larger acreage.

It is the custom of apple growers in Nova Scotia to pack their own fruit, and it works much more satisfactorily than the Ontario system of having the apples packed by the buyer. At nearly every station some enterprising English firm has erected a storehouse, so that the orchardist always has a convenient place to store his fruit, but of course he is limited to the market offered by this firm. The subject of cooperation is receiving considerable attention in the valley, but as yet there are no active societies in operation.