

## The Ontario Vegetable Growers' Convention

**T**HE best interests of the vegetable growers of Ontario are being promoted in many ways by the Ontario Vegetable Growers' Association. This fact was made manifest at the seventh annual convention of the association held November fifteenth, in Toronto. The attendance was much the largest in the history of the association.

President Delworth

Growers were present from almost all parts of the province and from the province of Quebec as well. As usual, however, there was not as large an attendance of market gardeners from around the city of Toronto as there should have been. The growers present were manifestly there with a purpose. The discussions, therefore, were to the point and instructive. Each year a gratifying increase in the influence and importance of this association is noticeable.

Since the formation of the association one of its most efficient officers and workers has been the present president, Thos. Delworth, of Weston. In his remarks as president, Mr. Delworth laid emphasis on the importance of the use of a system of irrigation in connection with the growing of vegetables where there is a suitable supply of water available. The necessity for eliminating the middleman wherever practical was pointed out. Mr. Delworth also advocated that the new government at Ottawa should be urged to reintroduce and pass the measure establishing standard weights by the bushel and by the bag for vegetables that was introduced in the last session of the Dominion Senate, but which did not receive its third reading because of the dissolution.

### SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

The report of the secretary-treasurer, I. Lockie Wilson, of Toronto, described the savings that had been effected by several branches of the association through cooperative buying and lines of work the branches were carrying on successfully. The need for a greater supply of labor was touched on, it being stated that in the vicinity of St. Thomas alone one thousand more laborers than are available are needed.

The success of the experiments conducted in New Ontario under the direction of the association was mentioned. The possibility and desirability of specializing in potato growing in New Ontario was urged. If this is done, however, it will be necessary to secure a readjustment of freight rates, as it now costs more to ship potatoes from

New Liskeard to Toronto, a distance of three hundred and thirty-four miles, than from St. John, N.B., to Toronto, a distance of one thousand miles.

### ORGANIZATION

The necessity for being better organized and the benefits that would follow were described by C. W. Baker, of Tumbaling, Ont. Mr. Baker declared that the association might increase its membership to five thousand if the present members would take hold of the work with the necessary enthusiasm. That the convention appreciated the points that were made by Mr. Baker was shown by the passing of a resolution appointing Mr. Baker to represent the association this winter for several weeks in the organization of new branches of the association. Mr. Baker's paper will be published in an early issue of *THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST*.

### TOMATO GROWING FOR EXPORT

One of the best papers ever presented at a convention of the association was read by George Cooper, of Grimsby, Ont., entitled "Tomato Growing for the British Market." This report will be published practically in full in *THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST*. Mr. Cooper dealt not only with the matter of the varieties of tomatoes now grown, but also with the varieties demanded by the British consumer, the best methods of shipping tomatoes, of distributing them to the Old Country markets, the methods of handling tomatoes followed in other countries, and many other points. The paper was most comprehensive and instructive. The conclusion reached was that at present tomatoes cannot be shipped with profit to the Old Country, but there are great possibilities for increasing the production of tomatoes in Ontario, and no reason why in time, through the adoption of proper and systematic methods a profitable market cannot be developed in Great Britain. To accomplish all this, however, will be a matter of years.

### SMALL FRUIT CULTURE

An entertaining, instructive talk on new methods in small fruit culture was given by W. H. Kerr, of Ottawa. Mr. Kerr dealt with the methods of growing varieties of small fruit that he has found most successful, and touched a little also on the matter of varieties.

### WORK OF THE STATIONS

The work being done at the Ottawa, Guelph, and Jordan Harbor Experiment Stations was described respectively by W. T. Macoun of Ottawa, H. H. MacLennan of Guelph, and A. T. Logsdail of Jordan Harbor. Mr. Macoun and Mr. MacLennan told the growers present quite plainly that they were not taking the interest in the work of the stations that they should. Growers sel-

dom visit them and almost never offer suggestions concerning experiments they would like to see tried and do not do what they might to induce the local and Dominion Governments to extend the work being carried on in the interest of vegetable growers. Mr. MacLennan had samples of tomatoes and potatoes with him which he used to illustrate the results of experimental work he had conducted. He stated that the horticultural department at Guelph was handicapped through not having more greenhouses in which to prosecute experimental work, and that he realized that the most valuable experimental work that could be carried on was in relation to the growing of crops under glass.

The members of the association showed that they realized that the criticism to which they had been subjected was justified by passing a resolution, moved by Mr. Fraser, of Leamington, and seconded by Mr. J. W. Rush, of Humber Bay, urging the Government to provide more greenhouse accommodation at Guelph. The directors were requested to press this matter upon the Government and to place themselves in touch with the work being conducted at the college. Further reference will be published in *THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST* to the reports of Messrs. Macoun and Logsdail. Mr. Wm. Dreher spoke briefly in regard to the work being done at Macdonald College, Quebec, and by the Quebec Vegetable Growers' Association.

### SEED POTATOES

An address on the importance of proper seed selection was delivered by Dr. W. W. Tracey, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., mention of which will be made more fully in later issues of *THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST*.

A paper entitled "New Ontario as a Place to Grow Seed Potatoes," was read by Mr. T. G. Raynor, of the Ontario Department of Agriculture. This will be published in *THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST* in full.

### EVENING SESSION

At the evening session a valuable address, entitled "Marketing Problems," was given by Paul Work, of Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. This address was illustrated by a large number of excellent stereopticon views. The views showed packing houses, market gardeners' wagons loaded with vegetables, methods of picking and packing vegetables in the field, and other similar subjects. This address, as well as some of the illustrations used, will be published in *THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST*. Addresses were also given at this session by Mr. C. C. James, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, and by Hon. J. S. D. Minister of Agriculture, Toronto. M-