

## Horticulture at Central Canada Exhibition

THE horticultural exhibit at the Central Canada Exhibition, Ottawa, was in some respects disappointing, while in other respects it was a fairly creditable one. The display of apples could not have been much more than half what it was last year, due principally to the rather light crop of apples this season in the Ottawa valley. It was apparent, however, that more inducement must be given to exhibitors if a good display of fruit is to be maintained. Prizes—and good prizes at that—should again be offered for the best general collection of apples grown in the Ottawa valley, and for the best general display of fruit. An exhibit of apples packed in boxes for export should also be encouraged, as large quantities of apples are now being grown in the Ottawa valley that could be disposed of by sending to Great Britain or to the west. No apples were shown in boxes at the Central Canada this year.

The apples were not of the best quality, on the whole, but the Duchess, Alexander, and Baxter were good. The last named variety is increasing in popularity, and it is now recommended as one of the few winter apples which can be grown successfully in the Ottawa valley. The prizes for apples nearly all went to local exhibitors, as few from a distance competed.

The pears which were shown were exhibited by Messrs. Wilds and Marshall, of Hamilton,

Ont., between whom all the prizes were divided. The plums were also practically all from Hamilton, and exhibited by the same persons. Owing to the early dates at which the fair was held the exhibit of grapes was small, only 13 plates being shown, practically all the first prizes going to Mr. P. G. Keyes, Ottawa, who usually gets the lion's share of the prizes for grapes. The exhibit of vegetables was very fair. This being a favorable season for melons, some good ones were shown. The exhibit of cut flowers was considerably better than that at the Canadian National, the asters being especially good.

In the Central Experimental Farm building there was, we think, a very creditable display of fruit. There were shown of named apples 111 plates, and 31 varieties of seedling apples originated at the C.E.F. There were also exhibited 17 varieties of crab apples, 50 of plums, 17 of grapes, 33 of tomatoes, 36 of sweet corn, and 14 of potatoes. Charts were placed on the wall on which were printed information regarding the best varieties of fruits for the Ottawa valley and the care of the trees. The varieties of apples recommended are: Yellow Transparent, Duchess, Wealthy, Alexander, McIntosh, Fameuse, Wolf River, Milwaukee, Baxter, Scott Winter, Canada Baldwin, and North-Western Greening. Very complimentary remarks were heard in regard to the farm exhibit.

## Fruit and Flowers at Western Fair, London

THE Western Fair held at London, Ont., Sept. 7-15, enjoyed the best weather and largest attendance in its history. Some excellent displays of flowers, fruits and vegetables were to be seen. In the floral department there were not as many plants exhibited as usual, but the quality was better than in previous years. While the exhibits of floral designs were hardly up to the usual standard, they were creditable. For funeral design, any size or shape, A. G. Stevens won first prize with an anchor resting on a large bed of white asters. J. Gammage & Sons won second with a society emblem. The third went to T. Mills, who designed a broken column.

The winners in the class for wreath of white flowers are: 1st, Gammage & Sons, 2nd, A. G. Stevens; 3rd, T. Mills. Basket of flowers: 1st, Gammage, with Golden Gate roses; 2nd, Stevens, with American Beauties; and 3rd, Mills, with mixed roses. Hand bouquet, colored: 1st, Stevens; 2nd, Gammage; and 3rd, Mills. Table bouquet: 1st, Gammage; 2nd, Mrs. A. Burns; 3rd, Mills.

There was also a fine showing of gladioli, asters, cockscombs, sweet peas, and so on. Two or three fine collections of dahlias were shown, also several large collections of annuals and perennials.

Some very good specimens of geraniums, and flowering, tuberous and rex begonias were exhibited. A nice collection of 12 varieties of cannas won 1st prize for Gammage & Sons. Mr. Whiting secured 1st for 12 greenhouse and stove plants. Gammage & Sons won 1st prize also in the following classes: collection of 6 varieties of cannas, hanging basket, collection of 25 foliage plants, collection of ferns, specimen palm, specimen fern and general display of plants. Mr. Whiting won 1st on collection of coleus. First place was secured by Mr. Mills, also, on the following: collection of 12 varieties of carnations in pots. Mr. T. Wells won 1st on specimen palm and on collection of 6 varieties of palms.

### FRUIT

The fruit exhibits were not large, but the

quality was fair. It is to be regretted that fruit growers did not take a greater interest in this department. It may be due to the small remuneration offered in the way of prizes. Some very fine apples were shown, also a large collection of grapes; peaches, plums and pears were scarce.—F.C.

In addition to the foregoing, the following letter was received: "Perhaps the Western Fair may be suitable for the crowds of country people who visit it, but I think it is time that some more attractive features were introduced. Certainly it is difficult to make the present horticultural building very attractive, and I suppose a new building is not amongst the probabilities, but the horticultural committee ought to be able to devise some plan of decoration so that a little less whitewash is visible. Messrs. J. Gammage & Sons' exhibit of horticultural sundries was a move in the right direction, and contributed not a little towards making that end of the building look more furnished. The management still stick to the ancient custom of putting the names of exhibitors on the entry cards in spite of many protests and objections. I have never yet been able to get a satisfactory explanation of their objection to numbers."—E.

## Cold Storage

That cold storage facilities for our apples are urgently in demand, may be seen at some country points where apples barrelled up one day, have to wait for several days at the station or in the orchard before being shipped. The wait of a few days, in the hot, dry sun, works all the difference between success and failure with markets. And the dealers are not the only losers. A poor sample of apples discounts Canadian fruit in the Old Country markets. It is a poor advertisement for Canadian goods.

Railroad companies are somewhat to blame in not furnishing cars at shorter notice, and the dealers are to be censured who neglect to order refrigerator cars and secure the Domin-

ion government bonus of icing privileges. In some country points we have seen apples being shipped in hog and cattle cars, landed by the railways at stations in a most unfit condition. How long will the fruit growers and farmers of Ontario pay bonuses and subsidies to roads which quietly give them the go-by?—Toronto World.

## The Show at Woodstock

The Woodstock Hort. Society's annual flower show was held late in August. As usual, some fine gladioli were shown by Mr. R. W. Woodroffe and others. Dickerson, the florist, had a large exhibit of palms and ferns, good healthy commercial stuff.

A large variety of seedling coleus was shown by Mr. Jas. Scarfe, and "Alladore" sent the usual collection of stove and greenhouse plants, including a *Musa Cavendishi* in fruit as a drawing card. The crowd turned out well and the secretary reports a balance of \$23. A piano was kept on the go all the time, and made things pleasantly lively.—E.

## Galt Flower Show

The Galt Hort. Soc. held its annual flower show on Sept. 6. Whilst the number of entries was not so large as in former years, the quality of the exhibits was fully up to the usual standard, in some instances exceeding it.

The show was held in the market building, and was very attractively set up, but the attendance was poor. The management has tried all kinds of things "on the side" in order to draw the public, without success, but this time had simply nothing else. Some music is an actual necessity at a flower show, if it is only a lone piano.

## The No. 1 Grade

Some growers are laboring under the opinion that the wording of the clause that deals with the grade for No. 1 apples in the Fruit Marks Act has been changed. This is not so. There is practically no change in the No. 1 grade. It will be stiffened, however, to the extent of not permitting any apples that are near the margin of the No. 2 grade being passed as No. 1 apples. Before a No. 2 was defined, the inspectors occasionally permitted doubtful apples to pass as No. 1. Now that will not be the case. All doubtful apples must be packed as No. 2. By "doubtful" is meant those that are on the margin between No. 1 and No. 2.

In the 10% of defective specimens that are allowed, marked defects are not included. The 10% is allowed simply for the mistakes incurred in the hurry of packing. Defective specimens that are yet marketable go as No. 2. You will see, therefore, that the No. 1 grade this year will not be different to the system of packing practised by the best packers last year.

The new warehouses which are being remodelled for the Allan Steamship Co. at Surrey Dock, London, will, when completed, be equal to any in Great Britain for the accommodation of fruit. Special attention is being given to the fitting up of the apple storage sections so that they may meet the requirements of Canadian shippers.

A copy of Simmers' annual autumn catalog of bulbs, plants, seeds, etc., 1906, has been received by THE HORTICULTURIST. It contains a list of everything in that line required by florists and gardeners. Many cultural notes make it doubly interesting and valuable. A copy may be had by writing J. A. Simmers, Toronto.

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