

per bushel, which is what the probable cost would be laid down here, if purchased through regular channels. The suggestion made by the Department is that, in districts where the farmers are short of feed, they should organize and purchase co-operatively what they require in car-load lots directly through the Grain-growers' Grain Co., Ltd., of Winnipeg.

SPLENDID PRIZES FOR SEED-GROWERS.

An important feature of the Winter Fair, at Guelph, Dec. 9th to 13th, will be the exhibition given under the auspices of the Canadian Seed-growers' Association, for which a fine series of prizes are offered, in addition to the following special topics:

(1) The Hodson Cup.—A handsome silver cup,

offered by Mr. F. W. Hodson, ex-Live-stock Commissioner, to the member of the Canadian Seed-growers' Association making the most creditable showing of selected seed for the whole exhibition.

(2) The Klink Cup.—Given by Prof. L. S. Klink, Macdonald College, for the best 25 ears of Dent corn, any variety, grown in Ontario in 1907, under the rules of the Canadian Seed-growers' Association.

(3) The Bate Cup.—Given by Mr. Thos. C. Bate, of H. N. Bate & Co., for the best 25 ears of Flint corn, any variety, grown in Ontario in 1907 under the rules of the Canadian Seed-growers' Association.

(4) The Steel-Briggs Trophy.—A trophy, valued at \$100, given by the Steel-Briggs Seed Co., for the best bushel of alsike clover seed of highest Government standard in respect to purity and germination, grown by the exhibitor.

None of the above trophies will become the permanent property of any grower until won by him three times. Between exhibitions, each trophy may be held by the last winner until permanently won.

Prospective exhibitors may secure a copy of the above premium list by applying at once to Mr. A. P. Westervelt, Parliament Buildings, Toronto.

AMERICAN GALLOWAY BREEDERS TO MEET.

Secretary Charles Gray, of the American Galloway Breeders' Association, announces the date of their annual meeting, to be the night of Dec. 6th, following the day of the Galloway sale at the International Live-stock Exposition, Chicago. The sale will be a good one, as all the animals entered for it are prizewinners, and many are imported individuals.

Fruit, Flowers, Vegetables and Honey at Toronto.

THE FRUIT EXHIBIT.

It was hardly to be expected that in a year when fruit was not a bumper crop, and the demand has been so great that anything in the shape of orchard produce has brought good prices, there would have been anything like the magnificent display of fruits of all kinds put up at the Horticultural Exhibition this year. Growers all over the Province, however, realize that this is the exhibition at which Ontario fruits can be shown to their best advantage. Some of the earlier tender fruits may, no doubt, be better shown at the time of the Canadian National and the Niagara district exhibitions; but Ontario's greatest fruit product, the apple, does not attain full perfection and beauty till later in the season, and many of the earlier fruits may be held over and shown with the apples at this November exhibition.

The display in variety and extent surpassed all previous exhibitions. Some American visitors admitted that it overshadowed even the displays made at any of the recent large world's fairs. Only attendance was short.

An effort has been made to make this Exhibition as representative as possible of all parts of the Province, and, as a result, one of the attractive features was the county exhibits. These came from the counties of Brant, Elgin, Essex, Halton, Huron, Lambton, the united counties of Leeds and Grenville, Norfolk, the united counties of Northumberland and Durham, Oxford, Peel, Prince Edward, Simcoe, the united counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, Victoria, Wentworth and York. Through the efforts of Mr. Frank Metcalf, of Blyth, the largest county exhibit came from the county of Huron. Mr. J. C. Smith, of Burlington, acted as judge in this class. An effort should be made to get more of the counties interested next year, for, in this way, the educational value of the Exhibition will be more widely spread.

As on former occasions, the educational exhibits made by the Experimental Farm and the various Fruit Experiment Stations contributed largely to the value of the Exhibition. Unfortunately, lack of space prevented these all being grouped together as they should have been.

The most prominent development in this Exhibition during the past year or two has been in the display of fruits in commercial packages—baskets, boxes and barrels. This is an evidence of the great growth of the commercial end of the industry, and the desire in the past of the growers to put their fruit on the market, either at home or abroad, in the most attractive manner. The judges in this class were A. McNeill, Chief of the Fruit Division, Ottawa, and D. Johnson, of Forest. They had the heaviest end of the judging to do, as it kept them busy the greater part of two days to complete their work. It would be advisable another year to put on more judges in this class, so that the judging might be accomplished in, at most, one day.

As an evidence that the tendency of the times is to have fruit brought to a central point for packing by experts, it might be noted that comparatively few private growers received prizes in this class. The majority of the awards went to one or another of the many co-operative associations which have been organized all over the Province for the handling and shipping of fruit.

While the great array of fruit in boxes and barrels might impress the visitors with the importance of the commercial side of fruit-growing, yet there is nothing about it so attractive to the general onlooker as the beautiful fruit itself, piled in pyramids or displayed on plates. Here it is the grower can study varieties and note the peculiarities of certain varieties from different sections of the country. The judge on plates and pyramids of apples was W. F. W. Fisher, Burlington.

The display of grapes and pears was judged by Murray Pettit, Winona. These were the only classes

in which the entries were not in excess of last year, but the fruit shown was of particularly fine quality.

Another feature of the fruit exhibit in which the competition has grown stronger every year is the preserved fruits. The prize list offers fairly liberal prizes for all kinds of cultivated Canadian fruits, canned on put up in jam and jellies. The provident housekeepers who take pride in this part of the work, certainly deserve praise and encouragement. A very instructive exhibit of this class was made by the Department of Agriculture, and was in charge of Miss Shuttleworth, showing a score or more of ways in which the apple may be put up and preserved for table use.

The liberal prizes offered for the society or association exhibits of fruit in commercial packages, and not in packages, brought out a number of fine exhibits. In these sections some restriction should be made limiting the display to one class of fruit, such as apples. All parts of the country could then compete on more equal terms. At present the associations in the northern part of the country where apples only can be grown, are up against the southern associations with their varied displays of apples, pears, peaches, grapes and other tender fruits. The competition is an unequal one, and should be equalized or dropped entirely. Awards in this class were: 1, St. Catharines Cold-storage Company; 2, Norfolk Fruit-growers' Association; 3, Grantham Fruit-growers' Association; 4, Orillia Horticultural Association.

The general arrangement of the display with fruits and flowers interspersed on the tables was most admirable, and apparently did not interfere with the convenience of judging either of them. A similar arrangement at the Canadian National would make a wonderful improvement in that Exhibition.

It is quite evident that more commodious quarters are required for the proper housing of the Exhibition, if it is to be continued on its present lines, and what is needed worst at the present time is suitable accommodation close to the Exhibition for the various conventions which meet during the week. There would not then be so much time lost on the streets between the Exhibition and the place of meetings. H. L. H.

CONVENTION OF THE FRUIT-GROWERS' ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO.

A small, but fairly representative audience was called to order in Victoria Hall, Toronto, on Tuesday morning, Nov. 13th, by President Harold Jones, at the forty-eighth annual convention of the Ontario Fruit-growers' Association. The President observed in his opening address that the attendance at the conventions had been disappointingly small since they had been meeting regularly in Toronto, although he thought that in other respects the move had been a good one. He referred to the educational value of the Horticultural Exhibition in Massey Hall, noting particularly the county exhibits of fruit, which he considered more representative than any others, there being some from every corner of the Province. It was here that buyers learned in what localities to look for the apples they wanted. It was only a year or so ago that Chicago buyers had found out they must go to the St. Lawrence Valley for Snows and McIntosh Reds. He remarked the influence of the Association in educational work and legislation.

AMERICAN POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY INVITED TO ST. CATHARINES.

The next biennial meeting of the American Pomological Society is likely to be held in Canada, and Mr. Jones suggested that a formal invitation be sent by the Ontario Fruit-growers' Association. This elicited delegates to the American Pomological Convention, at Jamestown, this year, an announcement that he had already invited the Society to Canada. It was resolved, after discussion, to invite the American society to hold its next meeting in St. Catharines, in September, 1909.

NO DOMINION FRUIT CONFERENCE NEXT SPRING.

Under the head of communications, Secretary P. W. Hodgetts reported that Hon. Sydney Fisher had informed him it would be impossible to call another fruit conference in the spring of 1908, as the National Live-stock Convention would engage his attention.

NEW SEEDLING FRUIT.

Of the committee on new fruits, two members re-

ported, W. T. Macoun, Horticulturist, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, and Prof. H. L. Hutt, O. A. C., Guelph. Prof. Macoun explained his idea of the purposes of the committee on new fruits as being to prepare and preserve historical records of new seedling fruits, and to obtain unbiased reports on the same. As instancing the extent to which seedling fruits had developed, he mentioned that, whereas in the early part of the 19th century eighty per cent. of the apples recommended by nurserymen were of European origin, now only about ten per cent. were European, the balance being of American origin.

In Ontario, a large proportion of the favorite varieties are of American nativity, early settlers from across the line having brought along the sorts to which they were accustomed. In the Eastern part of the Province many of these have been tried without success, and, as a result, a distinct race of native apples has been developed, such as St. Lawrence, Fameuse (Snow), McIntosh Red and Baxter, apples which, for districts suitable to them, simply outclass the apples in other parts of the world. The only reason why Western Ontario has not evolved equally high-class fruits is that the imported varieties have succeeded better than in the east, and there has not been the same urgency for the development of original native kinds.

Of recent years, plant-breeding has become extremely popular all over America. Of the sixty experiment stations in the United States, three-quarters are breeding new fruits, and fully one-half are producing varieties that should be of use in Canada. Before long we shall have hundreds of new varieties brought to our notice to increase the multiplicity of varieties that has already been regarded as the curse of the industry. The question arises, how can we best, in the interest of commercial fruit culture, utilize only the most desirable of these and thus avoid the evils of confusion and monetary loss? He suggested that the Fruit-growers' Association might do something to develop the co-operative movement, encouraging large buying of only a few kinds of nursery stock in each locality.

During the past year, few new seedlings had been sent in to Ottawa, but they now have over 2,000 seedlings growing on the Central Experimental Farm. Over 200 of these have already fruited, and of these 200 twenty-five per cent. are promising enough for further test. They are planning to plant an experimental orchard of the best ones. Mr. Macoun drew attention to twenty-three seedlings of the Swazie Pomme Grise, a small russet apple, celebrated for its quality. As showing how seedlings vary from the parent tree, he noted that only four of them had any russet at all, in size, five were large, four above medium, twelve medium, and only two were small; in shape, fourteen were oblate, six roundish, one conical and two oblong; eight were of good quality, ten above medium to good and five medium; as regards season, two were designated as August, eight September, five October, four early winter and four winter. Among new fruits he noted the Mendel, a seedling of Wealthy, which he anticipates will be of great value. It resembles Wealthy, is of good quality, and will keep all winter. Oscar is a handsome Russian seedling of Wealthy, while Percival and Clive are among other new sorts mentioned. Among summer apples, he noted Lowland Raspberry and Love's Queen, the latter a beautiful Russian seedling which had been on exhibit at Toronto. A Swazie seedling apple, which Prof. Macoun considered the best apple ever originated at the Central Experimental Farm, was called "Ottawa." Last winter, however, it was killed, although fortunately scions had been propagated. At Jordan Harbor, this variety might prove hardy. So, also, with grapes, there are many new varieties which are not at all hardy at Ottawa, but might prove very valuable for a warmer climate.

Prof. Hutt, in opening, drew attention to the fact that there are many parts of the Province where new varieties are needed. For instance, the northern regions have, as yet, no hardy winter apple longer-keeping than the Wealthy. Like Prof. Macoun, he had received few new seedling fruits to report upon this year. The first he commented upon was the Ottawa above mentioned, which did not resemble the Swazie, but was more like Ben Davis. It is fine-grained, juicy, mildly subacid, but, in Prof. Hutt's opinion, only of fair quality.

No. 2 was a seedling sweet apple, grown by William Moore, of Watford, Halton Co. It is