

tario government to do something that will be of great value to the fruit growers of the Niagara district."

"While we have many of our leading fruit growers here," said Mr. A. H. Pettit, of Grimsby, "I am safe in saying the whole population would have acted on the deputation had they been able. The experimental farms at Ottawa and Guelph are of great value to the fruit growers in the northern districts of Ontario, but not of nearly as much value to the districts where the tender fruits are raised. What we need is a horticultural college where our young men can receive instruction in the raising of fruit. Many residents of cities would send their sons to take a course in such a college. The best proof of this is the fact that many of them write to our growers asking if they will take their sons for a season that they may gain experience on their farms.

"When the farm at Guelph was started there was some complaint about the expense, but that time has passed, as the people recognize the great value of the college. This would be the case with the horticultural college we desire to have established. We do not want it to conflict with the college at Guelph, and I do not believe it would, as it will have a field all its own. It is our wish that it should be established in such a manner that it will be possible for students to graduate from the High schools, take a course in the college of horticulture and step out ready to take up practical work on the farm. Recently we had to send to Delaware for an expert to address a series of meetings in our district. The reason we had to send to that state was that they have such a college there and the gentleman who attended our meetings was of great value to our growers."

"There is no need," said Mr. W. H. Bunting, of St. Catharines, "to point out the value of the institutions we have, as that is recognized. It has been one of the greatest

regrets of my life that I was not able to take advantage of a course at a college like the college at Guelph, and I have been endeavoring to partly make up for this loss by securing this advantage for the benefit of my family. We have no fault to find with the capable officers at the Experimental Farm at Ottawa, or those at Guelph, all of whom are doing excellent work. Their field is large, however, and they are unable to give the required attention for the special needs of the Niagara district. This has made it necessary for us to apply for assistance again and again, to the colleges of the United States, and at times these requests on our part have placed us in a somewhat humiliating position.

"We desire to have an expert staff to carry on work that will be of great value to the Niagara district. We have heard a great deal of criticism regarding the packing of fruit. It is impossible to pack good fruit if the growers are not in a position to produce the best. We have, therefore, come to ask for assistance which will enable our growers to raise the standard of their products."

"The pests which destroy the fruit in the southern district of Ontario," said Mr. Hodgetts, of the St. Catharines Board of Trade, "are different from those in the northern sections and our fruit growers need assistance in learning how to control them. As the whole of Canada is affected by a shortage in the wheat crop of the west, so a shortage in the fruit crop in the Niagara district affects all branches of trade."

"Fruit production," said Mr. E. Morden, of Niagara Falls, "is increasing wonderfully. Twenty bushels are being grown to-day where one was raised 30 years ago. There is an immense market to the south of us, which is yet to be developed. Such a college as we desire will be of great value to the growers all along the northern shore of Lake Erie. The tendency of high schools