

plantation and take out all old wood. This allows all strength and growth to go into the new wood for the crop of the following year. The soil is kept cultivated throughout the summer and the rows plowed up too during the fall.

The Kittatinny and the Snyder are favorite varieties. They are the best shippers. The Kittatinny is a little tender and is inclined to winter-kill. The Snyder is very hardy. It is a good shipper

and may be sent anywhere. The Erie is a magnificent berry, both for flavor and size. It is a softer berry, however, and is very tender, killing out badly in winter and hence only cropping about every other year. I much prefer the Snyder. It beats the other varieties with us almost every year. We are trying the Mercereau. It is of good quality and size but is going to be a very shy bearer.

The Packing of Ontario Fruit

By "Weary Worm," Winona

THE marketing end of the fruit business is a very live and burning question to-day in Ontario generally, and in the Niagara District in particular. As far as apples are concerned, much has been done throughout Ontario in the way of improvement by the various cooperative associations that have been formed of late years, even although some of them are far from perfect yet. Dominion Inspector Carey states that a great improvement in the packing of apples has taken place during the last few years, and that a large proportion of the packers are now endeavoring to do good work.

BOX PACKING MORE POPULAR

Box packing of fancy fruit—especially for long distance shipments—is growing in favor with the consuming public, even although the dealers in certain markets still prefer the barrel. As regards our tender fruits, such as peaches, plums, etc., some improvement has also taken place, but a great deal yet remains

to be done. Some of the large dealers, and the large private growers, are doing something along this line, but the most is being done by cooperative associations.

The founder of the box system of packing apples in Ontario was, I believe, Mr. George E. Fisher, of Burlington, and the Burlington Association, of which he is a member, has done good work in box packing successfully, the tender fruits as well as apples. Mr. Biggs, of Burlington, is also doing good work in this matter. Recently some very good work in this direction has been done by such organizations as the St. Catharines Cold Storage Company, and the Ontario and Western Cooperative Company.

As far as the Western market is concerned, Ontario shippers must do better grading of their fruit if they wish to compete successfully against British Columbia and American competition, and to keep for their own that large share of the western fruit trade to which they

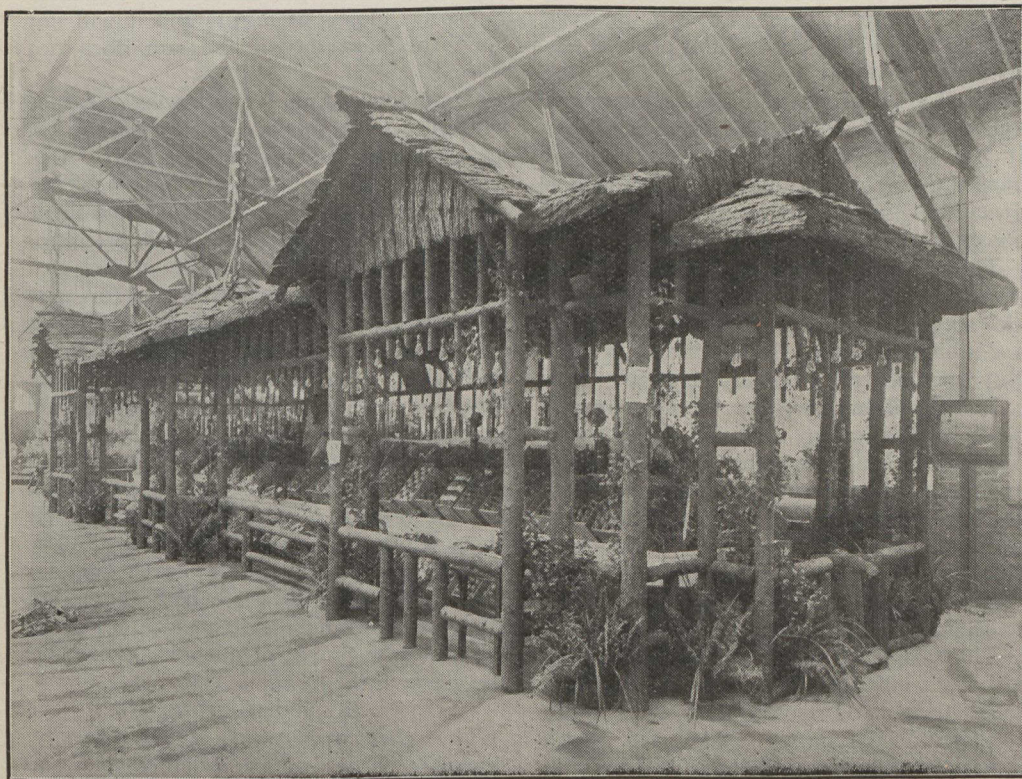
ought to be justly entitled. In the matter of our tender fruits the St. Catharines Cold Storage Company has been packing peaches, plums, etc., for some time in boxes, and have some very well trained packers on their staff.

The Ontario and Western Company made a wise move this summer when they obtained three expert packers—one from Michigan, one from Georgia, and one from Virginia—to give scientific and practical advice and instruction to the company's packers, and to put them up to all the latest wrinkles employed in other peach growing districts. They have had these packers at work for some time now, and one of the chief officers of the company informs me that good results have followed, and that he expects even better results next season from the instructions received from these experts. A large number of this company are having their apples packed in boxes this season.

Some of the shippers inform me that in sending tender fruits to the West, fancy packages are still somewhat hard to sell, the people there objecting to pay the extra price for fruit put up in such a way. When shipping cars of fruit on order plenty of orders are received for baskets, and comparatively few for cases or other fancy packages. Be that as it may, it seems to me that the public there, as they grow in wealth, will more and more demand the better class of fruit, and that the prejudice of the dealers and retailers against the change will gradually disappear.

THE PEACHES FOR ENGLAND

I have recently had the privilege of inspecting the packing, at the St. Catharines Cold Storage Company's packing house, of one of the shipments of peaches for England. Mr. Dobson, of Hamilton, who has an extensive orchard at Jordan Harbor, and the St. Catharines Cold Storage Co., are sending several considerable shipments of peaches to England, under the superintendence of the Dominion and Ontario Governments. The shippers are guaranteed a certain price for this fruit by the Government. Mr. Dobson's first shipment of early Crawfords, made on the 10th of September has arrived in London in good condition, and has excited favorable comment there. The box adopted is similar to the South African box, and is 18 inches long, 11 wide, and 3½ deep. Wood wool made from the aspen willow is used for packing material, and a good layer of this is placed at the bottom, top and sides of the box. Every peach is first wrapped in paper, then in wool, and carefully fitted to its place; the boxes then are nailed up, and every three boxes are placed on top of one another and nailed top and bottom together, thus making a very handy crate weighing



An Exhibit of British Columbia Fruit at the Canadian National Exhibition, which was Much Admired