

any crop or article of trade might be said to be just as great a risk if marked by lack of proper business methods. I have met plenty of growers who considered the season amply long, and who by seed selection have hastened the maturity of the fruit to such an extent that they always count on delivering their entire crop to the canning factory by the end of September, and this as far east as Prince Edward County.

Again, it is claimed that the contracts are in many cases altogether too favorable to the canner, safe-guarding him to the extent that in the event of a sudden glut of the fruit at the canning factory, combined with a shortness of labor or cans, he has the power to refuse as many loads as he sees fit, in some cases resulting in a loss to the grower of half his crop. Thus the contracts which are worded that the canner undertakes to receive the produce of so many acres, not exceeding 200 or 250 bushels per acre, certainly do not encourage the grower to aim for a heavy yield. Such claims as these, whilst based on actual occurrence, are exceptional, and generally come from the poorer and dissatisfied growers. While the contracts are certainly not worded to safeguard the interests of the grower, yet as a matter of fact they exist only as a formal necessity, and are very rarely enforced. The really good growers are able to practically make their own terms. Quite a number of contracts are made by the bushel, not by the acre, and these are more favorable to the farmer, since if he contracts to supply 1,000 bushels, the amount of land from which he shall produce them rests entirely with him, and thus is a stimulus towards the maximum yield.

There is, perhaps, one more phase which should enter into this question, but which I am not prepared to discuss here, and that is the comparative profits derived from a bushel of tomatoes by both grower and canner. All things considered the growers should certainly receive 30c. per bushel, and if they can obtain this price then they should be satisfied. Those who cannot reap a profit at that price should be content to leave the business to more careful and progressive growers. The chances of obtaining this rise in price in the immediate future are, because of lack of co-operation, not very bright.

SOME POINTS TO BE CONSIDERED IN GROWING TOMATOES, SHOWING WHEREIN LIE THE CAUSES OF FAILURE.

LOCATION: While of considerable importance in the production of the early crop, this consideration does not so largely affect the main crop. Southern slopes and suitable spots affording shelter from too great exposures, as far as is consistent with the rotation, might be taken better advantage of. It is advisable to point out here, that too many indifferent growers are raising their tomatoes five and even six miles from the canning factory, and the long and expensive haul thus incurred, largely affects the cost and profit of the crop. A minimum transportation expense is highly desirable, and should always be aimed at.