

should be first covered with heavy paper or other protection, and then the work may be done with freedom.

Favored Fruit Sections

Sir: What section of the province do you recommend most highly for general fruit growing, including the tender plants, considering not only climate and soil, but also nearness to markets, economy in freights, etc.

I. S. BELL, Peterboro.

For tender fruits, such as peaches and English cherries, the section adapted is very limited, being mostly confined to the region south of the Great Western division of the Grand Trunk Railway, the Burlington district, and to a less degree the east shore of Lake Huron, including the Beaver Valley. Pears and the finer plums may be grown over a much broader belt throughout a district north of Lake Ontario and east of the Georgian Bay; while apples, of course, may be grown much farther north, especially by making a careful selection of hardy varieties.

For commercial and economical marketing all depends on the markets selected. If for the northern shore of the Georgian Bay, a point near Collingwood or Owen Sound would be convenient to steamer transportation; if for Ottawa, or Montreal, or for export, a section such as we have east of Hamilton, with competition between the C. P. R. and G. T. R., and also between Canadian and Dominion express, is desirable.

Will Co-operative Packing and Selling Work in Ontario

THE low prices received for fruit shipped on consignment, and the excellent address of W. H. Owen at our Leamington meeting, has created much general interest in Ontario in the evolution of some practical method of carrying out co-operative buying and selling.

At a representative meeting of Niagara district fruit growers at St. Catharines on the 30th ult. the question was discussed at

some length, but without reaching a definite conclusion. The only scheme presented was by Mr. A. H. Pettit, of Grimsby, which provided for the formation of a stock company for the securing of a site, the erection of buildings, and the current expenses of the company. The large amount of capital required before a beginning could be made seemed to be a damper upon the acceptance of the scheme, which, however, will be still further discussed at a February meeting.

The Leamington fruit growers seem to be advancing a little farther, and have agreed upon a scheme which seems to involve less outlay, and we give a report of it, which appeared in the Leamington Post:

A meeting was held at Ruthven to consider the constitution of the Erie Fruit Association. The aim of the organization is to establish three fruit depots, one at Leamington, one at Ruthven, and one at Kingsville. The fruit from these respective districts is to be graded and packed at the stations, and sold to the best advantage, so as to prevent, as far as possible, the fruit in the section from competition with other fruit grown in the Erie district. The constitution provides for the election of a president, vice-president and two directors from each station. The sales at each station to be under the control of a manager, under the supervision of the directors.

The by-laws provide that the members shall not be allowed to sell or solicit sales of any fruit except culls, or fruit not acceptable to the company, but to deliver their fruit at the company's packing house, where it will be sold to the best advantage, the member receiving credit for his fruit, at the average price paid on that day for first, second or third-class fruit. The capital stock to be \$5,000, divided into 1,000 shares of \$5 each. Each member of the association is expected to take one or more shares, although it will not be compulsory. The limit to any one member will be 10 shares or \$50. A guarantee dividend of ten per cent. will be given to all shareholders, which will be a first charge on the expenses. One-third of the selling price of fruit will be retained until the close of the season, out of which the dividend above mentioned will be paid and all other costs of selling, salaries to secretary and treasurer, traveling expenses, etc. and the balance will be distributed among the members, in proportion to the number of bushels or baskets delivered. Parties desiring to take stock must first become members by payment of one dollar. The only cost to the shipper will be actual cost of selling, and the dividends to be paid on \$5,000 stock. If \$5,000 worth of fruit is sold, the cost to the grower who is a member of this society will be only 1 per cent. in addition to actual expense of selling.