

## NOTES AND COMMENTS.

seasons ; but otherwise the large orchard is a picture of health, and is loading well for a fine crop of peaches.

THE LECTURE by Prof. Pantou before the Paris Horticultural Society on the 19th May was a most instructive one, and the accompanying stereopticon illustration of prizes were greatly appreciated. There were twelve entries for the apple exhibit, one gentleman showing eighteen varieties, a large number considering the season, and all in excellent condition.

WE NOTE with great regret the announcement of the death of Mr. Jas. F. Webster, Hamilton, on the 5th of June. Mr. Webster has been a frequent contributor to our pages, and was ever ready to serve the best interests of our various Horticultural Societies.

FRUIT PRESERVING FLUIDS.—We desire to caution our readers against vendors of recipes for preserving fruits for culinary use, who go from door to door. Humbugs are the order, and some people seems to be more ready to spend their money on them than upon useful articles. Fifty cents for a recipe to dissolve 36 grs. salicylic acid in a quart of hot water! It does preserve the good appearance of the fruit ; it is one of the chemicals which the writer used for preserving fruits for exhibition at the World's Fair, but is not intended for taking into the human system. Indeed salicylic acid, if used constantly, is very injurious to health.

THE SAN JOSÉ SCALE is pretty widely distributed in the United States, by means of both nursery stock and fruit. The national nursery man is sure that one is about as important a factor as the other, and any Act that does not include the prohibition of the importation of fruit will be a failure. The most suc-

cessful winter wash for the destruction of the insect is said to be 2 lbs. of potash dissolved in 1 gallon of water.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SCALE by infected fruit is declared by many entomologists also to be quite possible. In a bulletin published in 1896 Professor Howard of the Department of Agriculture, Washington, says : — “ Its importance from an economic standpoint is vastly increased by the ease with which it is distributed over wide districts through the agency of nursery stock *and the marketing of fruit*, and the extreme difficulty of exterminating it where once introduced, presenting as it does, in the last regard, difficulties not found with any other scale insect.” The National Nurseryman says : — “ A federal bill providing for the inspection of nursery stock and not for the inspection of fruit, will, according to the best authorities, leave the way open for the dissemination of the San José scale through an avenue known to the scientist and practical orchardist.”

THE GAS TREATMENT of stock has been tried by the Entomologist of the Sewers Experiment Station, with some degree of success. Fumigating boxes, costing about \$10 were used, in which packages were placed, and treated with hydrocyanide and gas. Possibly this treatment will be a success, generally.

MESSRS. REFORD & Co. write they have fitted up the steamers Iona, Hurona and Gerona for London, and Kastalia for Glasgow with cold storage for perishable freight under contract with the Government. Any one may have list of sailing dates from Montreal on application to them, 23 St. Sacramento St.