

Agriculture will, upon application, be pleased to furnish to anyone interested, maps and literature dealing with and describing in detail the varied favored fruit districts of Ontario.

The Waiting Market.

The excellence of the fruit output and the enterprise of the Department has resulted in rapidly expanding the market. Every year has witnessed an increasing demand. Every year has brought new fruits for shipment. The growth of home population in centres along the railways has called for car-loads, and big warehouses are being built to distribute the fruit and more effectually grapple with the demand—a demand so great that Ontario cannot as yet keep pace with it. The markets of Great Britain alone call for all the apples which can be sent, provided they are of good variety and well packed. For peaches, grapes, plums, pears, early apples, etc., the markets of the great Northwest are making demand in ever increasing volume. Moreover, large quantities find a ready sale in the United States, where according to United States authorities, the production of apples has steadily decreased each year from 69,070,000 barrels in 1896 to 22,735,000 in 1909. Strawberries and other small fruit find perennial ready sale in the cities and towns at the doors of the grower. The central situation of Ontario is most advantageous to both the Eastern and the

Western markets, and her fruit products are continually finding wider distribution. The development and settlement of the great Prairie Provinces expanding every year—offer an almost limitless Canadian market, and hundreds of centres of population along the different lines of railway have their fruit consigned to them in carload lots.

Government Co-Operation.

The Government of Ontario is doing much to develop the fruit industry and to co-operate with the fruit grower in the expansion of his business. In the apple growing sections part of the output is gathered together, packed and shipped through co-operative associations of fruit growers, of which there are some thirty-seven operating at the present time. The great bulk of the crop, however, is handled by dealers, who buy the product of the orchards, either in bulk or by the barrel, have it packed and shipped in carload lots on consignment to Great Britain. Transportation is becoming increasingly efficient, especially in the southern parts where tender fruits are handled. To secure accurate knowledge on the problem of ascertaining the varieties of fruit best adapted to different localities and conditions, systematic experiments were conducted for a number of years at thirteen different points, under the auspices of the Ontario Department of Agriculture. With the results before him, the grower is not likely to go very far wrong in his choice of varieties.