

day or so, for the rest of the journey, an even 42 degrees was maintained.

We heard with some surprise that all shipments to the West were sent by way of Chicago. The fact that the Grand Trunk, on whose line the cars are loaded, gets a longer haul by this route, has something to do with this, but the chief reason given, and given emphatically, was that they got better service, the cars were more carefully iced, and got through in shorter time than by way of the C. P. R. In from five and a half to eight days the goods reach Winnipeg. Instances were quoted in which by C. P. R. it took eleven days.

The dealers in Winnipeg who handle their stuff, keep an advertisement running in one of the papers there, and charge it to the St. Catharines Forwarding Co. This materially helps in keeping up the keen demand for their "Prairie Brand" fruit which exists there. Satisfactory prices for everything sent this season have been received. Freight charges for car lots to Winnipeg are 66 cents per 100 pounds, icing added. The company puts on a flat-rate charge of 12 cents per 11-quart basket, and 5 cents per grape basket, but, deducting these and other expenses, apples, f. o. b. at St. Catharines, have brought 19 to 24 cents per 11-quart basket, pears 28 to 50 cents, tomatoes as high as 50 cents, and grapes (6-quart baskets) 18 to 25 cents each. Some exceptional prices received, away beyond these, might have been quoted, but these give a fair idea of those generally obtained. The strong, steady demand for apples, at very profitable prices, has been one of the pleasant surprises of the season.

Mr. Thompson does not expect any falling off in the demand for Ontario fruits in the West. On the contrary, it is bound to increase greatly. Neither does he fear the competition of the fruit-growers of the Pacific Slope for many years to come, though it may be serious after a time. Ontario fruit has the flavor, and if honestly and carefully packed and shipped, as it is being done in many places in the Province now, will always find appreciative consumers. In this good work of bringing the producer and the consumer of fruit together, to their mutual benefit and profit, such companies as the St. Catharines Cold Storage and Forwarding Co., and the various fruit co-operatives of Ontario have done a great deal, but have ahead of them still more to do.

Something Big in Plums.

Probably the most overboomed horticulturist or plant-breeder in the world is Luther Burbank, of California. Newspapers and magazines have long been puffing his work, and these generally sacrifice accuracy for sensation. However, Burbank has accomplished some wonderful things of greater or less practical value, and his creations—for such they may almost be called—are always interesting as showing the mutation of plant characteristics possible by hybridizing and selection. For instance, he tells in a recent issue of Green's Fruit-grower of what he calls the most surprising result of his experiments, one, too, that has recently developed. Several years ago he commenced raising seedlings from the little Beach plum (*Prunus Maritima*).

"After awhile," he says, "I began crossing the best of these seedlings with some of the large Japanese plums (*Prunus triflora*). Year before last, from a seed of these little plums (*Prunus maritima*), the blossoms of which had been pollinated with the Japanese plum, a plum was produced quite as large as a goose egg, having all the characteristics of the *Prunus maritima* in foliage and growth of the tree, with these enormous fruits, as large as medium-sized apples, growing on it, and a pit not much larger than a cherry pit. The tree is again bearing this year, the same fruit, only larger, and it hangs in big strings on the drooping limbs. Such a sight I never saw before in the fruit line.



Mr. John Fixter.

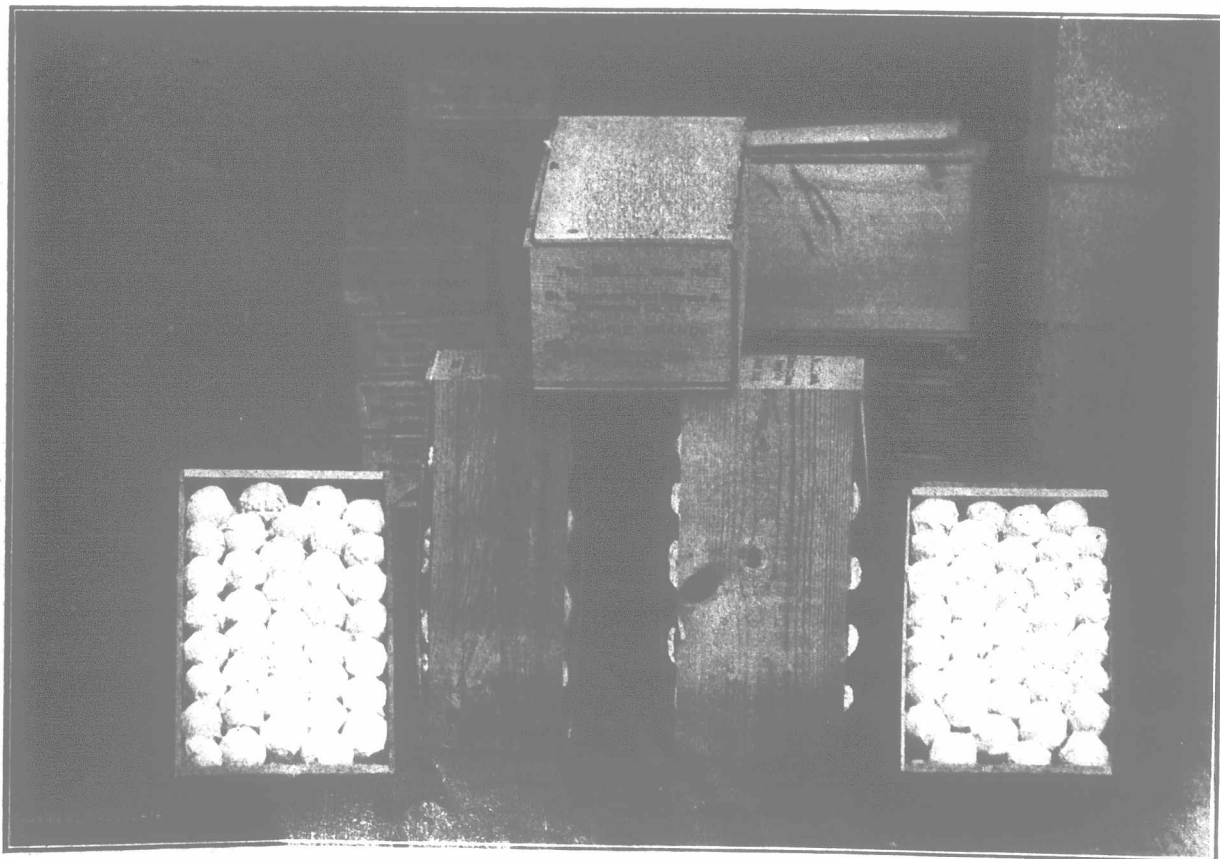
For many years farm foreman, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. Recently appointed farm manager, Macdonald College, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, P. Q.

"These plums are of a most excellent quality, and of a handsome, deep-crimson color.

"You will know that it is very remarkable that a seedling plum should be at least five hundred times as large as its own parent.

"A pedigree of this plum has been kept with the utmost care, so that I know these facts are correct, even did not the fruit, seed, flowers and growth prove it."

The grants to the Agricultural Societies of Ontario for 1907 will be based on the average expenditures for agricultural purposes in connection with their shows for the years 1904, 1905 and 1906.



Fruit Boxes Packed St. Catharines Cold Storage and Forwarding Co.

Two boxes peaches, showing spring of lid. Box on top showing end stencil.

THE FARM BULLETIN.

New Law Now in Force.

The new inspection system was inaugurated here on October 1st, and the additional 325 inspectors had plenty to do. So far as the packers were concerned there was no friction or delay, but some of the railroads were not quite sure what they would be allowed to haul under the law, and it took a little time to straighten things out. It takes fourteen labels for every carcass, so that the remains of a defunct steer looks like a suit case that had been in Continental Europe for a summer. Local packing-houses have been ready to comply with the new law for some time, but there are some small concerns that have not yet waked up to the importance of cleaning up in compliance with the law. Although the inspection force was greatly increased, it will take a still greater number to handle the work properly, and it will probably be a month or more before everything is going just right.—[Chicago Live-stock World.

Fair Dates for 1906.

American Royal, Kansas City, Mo.Oct. 6-13
Prince Edward Island Agr. and Industrial ExhibitionOct. 8-12
Muncey FairOct. 9, 10, 11
CaledoniaOct. 11, 12
Calstar Agr. Fair, AbingdonOct. 12, 13
International, ChicagoDec. 1-8
Ontario Winter Fair, GuelphDec. 10-15

[Note.—For general list of Ontario fairs, see "Farmer's Advocate," August 23rd, page 1343.]

Managers of fairs whose dates do not appear on our lists will confer a favor on our readers by sending in their dates.

Agricultural Scholarships.

Mr. J. Ogden Armour has donated \$5,000, to be distributed annually at the International Exposition, Chicago, in twenty agricultural scholarships, to be competed for by the State Agricultural Colleges. The competition for the scholarships is to be based upon animal and grain exhibits from the several Colleges, and such other forms of agricultural-student competition as may be recognized or established by the International Live-stock Exposition. The details governing the competition will be determined by the management of the Exposition, and be known as the J. Ogden Armour Scholarships.

Professional Agriculturists for the West.

Among recent appointments to official positions in Western agriculture, the following are to be chronicled: H. A. Craig, B.S.A., a 1906 graduate of the O. A. C., to the position of Superintendent of Institutes in the Province of Alberta; F. W. Broderick, B.S.A., a native of Lincoln Co., Ont., to the Chair of Horticulture in the Manitoba Agricultural College; and Prof. G. A. Sproule, B.A., who was reared on a farm near Shelburne, Ont., a graduate of Toronto University, and since 1901 a resident of Manitoba, to the Chair of English and Mathematics in the same institution.

Cost of the Chicago Exposure.

Official figures show that great losses occurred through the packing-house exposures, the U. S. beef exports falling off between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000 in the seven months ending July, 1906.

On another page will be found the itinerary of the Commission appointed by the Ontario Government to investigate the horse industry of Ontario. Look it up and see the date of the meeting most convenient for you to attend.

A movement is on foot to establish at Brandon, Man., a permanent winter stock show. Up to the present there has not been a successful all-round fat-stock show in the West, owing to season, lack of buildings, financial aid, etc.

Fruit-growers of Kent Co., Ont., have appealed to the Provincial Minister of Agriculture for assistance in fighting the San Jose scale, which increased in the county to such an extent this season as to be a serious menace to the fruit crops. It is announced that the Department will arrange for a series of meetings and demonstrations, at which experts will tell of and illustrate the best methods of fighting the scale, and will also take such other action as may be necessary.

Elections last week for the Senate of the University of Toronto show three names of prominent agriculturists. Prof. C. C. James, M. A., Deputy-Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, is one of the nominees of Victoria College graduates, while his chief, Hon. Nelson Monteith, B. S. A., Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, and T. G. Raynor, B. S. A., of the Seed Branch, Ottawa, are chosen by the graduates in Agriculture (O. A. C.).