

This catalogue was sent to the Minister of Agriculture in July, 1890, accompanied by the following letter from the Secretary. From the Department printed copies were sent out to all Secretaries of Agricultural and Horticultural Societies in Ontario.

To the Honorable CHARLES DRURY, Minister of Agriculture :

SIR,—The Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario has had under consideration the subject of "How to attain greater uniformity and fairness in the awards of Prizes at Fairs." The great disparity in these awards has been a matter of public comment. This has been especially noticed in cases of collections of fruits where the rating of the values of the varieties has been left entirely to judges, some of whom are incompetent, and know very little of the comparative merits of the varieties placed before them. Even in cases of single plates, many of the judges employed are in a quandary as to whether an apple, for instance, should be classed among the fall or winter varieties.

The present system of appointing three judges in the fruit department of our Agricultural Fairs is also thought to be a mistake, for, even if one of the three is an expert, the final judgment will often be reversed in deference to the opinion of the other two.

Now, in order to secure uniformity and fairness in the awards and prizes for fruits at fairs, the first important consideration seems to be the appointment of fruit experts who will not award prizes for winter apples to autumn varieties, or allow one variety to pass for another because of their inability to identify them. If three expert judges cannot be had it appears to our Association that it would be far better to engage one expert, throwing upon him the whole responsibility and remunerating him accordingly, as is done in the judging at the poultry shows. Such a judge might also be required to give a list of points upon which his judgment in each case was based.

It is evident that the educational value of our fairs depends very largely upon the correctness of the judgments given, and it is therefore exceedingly desirable that the work of the judges should be based upon some one standard, for even experts will differ with regard to the value of the various kinds of fruits, and their judgments cannot therefore be expected to be uniform.

To aid the directors of the Agricultural and Horticultural Societies of Ontario in attaining so important an object as has been indicated above, the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association has undertaken the preparation of a Fruit Catalogue for the Province, beginning with the following one of apples, to which, in the near future, is to be added catalogues of other fruits prepared in a similar way.

The Catalogue is not intended in any respect to be a guide for planters, as this has been dealt with in other lists which will appear in the next annual report of the Association, and because fruits which might be of general excellence might be ill adapted to certain localities.

In order to the better understanding the Catalogue a few explanations will be necessary. It will be observed that the usual headings found in such a catalogue, such as "Size," "Color," "Hardiness" and "Productiveness," have been omitted, the first two because any such description to be of value should be sufficiently full and accurate to serve for the identification of the varieties, and the other two because there are very few varieties which are uniformly hardy and productive throughout the Province. Four general headings have been adopted, viz., "Season," "Quality," "Commercial Value" and "Total Value."

In the plan of rating, all varieties are supposed to be perfect specimens; then the best varieties under each of three or four heads are rated at ten, and all the more or less inferior varieties by some figure less than ten. It frequently happens, however, even with the best varieties, that imperfect samples are exhibited. In such cases all values given in the Catalogue must be reduced one or more points each, for (1) lack of color, (2) undersize, (3) unevenness of size on plate, (4) wormy, scabby or ill-shapen specimens, (5) lack of stem or calyx, (6) polished fruits, *i. e.*, having bloom wiped off, or for any other thing which tends to change the natural appearance of the fruit.

The column "Total Value" is for use when prizes are offered for fruits without designating the purpose for which such fruits may be required.

The committee to whom the preparation of this list was entrusted consisted of the following gentlemen, viz.: Messrs. Thomas Beall of Lindsay, Alexander McD. Allan of Goderich, P. C. Dempsey of Trenton, and P. E. Bucke of Ottawa, but before publication their work was submitted to a general meeting of the Association, where it was carefully amended and the desirability of its circulation among the secretaries of Agricultural and Horticultural Fairs agreed upon.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

LINUS WOOLVERTON,
Secretary.

GRIMSBY, July, 1890.

CATALOGUE

Alexander...
American Go...
American Su...
Arnold's Bea...
American Pip...
Adam's Pearm...
Autumn Strav...

Bailey Sweet...
Baldwin...
Beauty of Ken...
Ben Davis...
Benoni...
Belmont...
Blenheim Pip...
Blue Pearmain...
Bottle Greenin...
Bourassa...

Cabashea...
Canada Baldwin...
Canada Reinit...
Cayuga Red St...
Chenango Stra...
Colvert...
Cornish Gillifl...
Cox's Orange P...
Cranberry Pip...
Cellini...

Domine...
Drap d'Or...
Detroit Black...
Duchess of Old...
Dyer...

Early Harvest...
Early Joe...
Early Strawber...
Edgar's Red St...
Ella...
Esopus Spitzen...

Fallowater...
Fall Janeting...
Fall Orange...
Fall Pippin...
Flushing Spitz...
Fameuse...
Fall Queen (see...

Gloria Mundi...
Golden Russet...
Golden Sweet...
Grand Sultan...
Gravenstein...
Green Newton...
Grimes' Golden...

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