

trees will confer a favor by corresponding with the Department of Agriculture at Toronto. If parasites can be obtained that will be effective in destroying the codling months, and they can be bred in sufficient numbers to distribute to favorable points, there may be accomplished a very valuable work in helping our apple growers to hold in check this most destructive enemy to our most valuable fruit crop. Apple growers all over Ontario should be interested in this important investigation.

### **Fruit Growers' Unions**

#### **Commission Sales Give Nothing to Growers**

**W**E have reached a crisis in the history of fruit growing in Ontario. We have been piling our fruit into the big cities to be sold at whatever it will bring, and commission men have used fruit

sent by one grower to cut prices with that sent by another, until we must call a halt or give up the business.

This was clearly brought out at a series of fruit growers' meetings held recently in the Niagara district. At the Grimsby meeting, Mr. Usher, of St. David's, strongly urged the adoption of some plan by which the fruit grower should be no longer at the mercy of the commission merchants. Last

year he had shipped 15,000 baskets of fruit, and when at the end of the year he reckoned up all the expenditures for work, packages, etc., he found that he had no money left as an income from his fruits. "We should unite," said he, "and agree together that we will not produce a pound of fruit for less than two or three cents, as the case may be, and agree to stand by that price, even if we

lose some fruit by it. How is it," said he, "that the canning factories are now getting double the price for canned fruits than they got some years ago, and the fruit grower gets less. Simply because the canners unite and the fruit growers do not unite to protect their own interests."

#### **Union of Fruit Growers Needed**

Every one seemed to agree that a union of some kind was most essential—a good strong union, which

should include all the prominent fruit growers of the province; a union where members would agree not to sell their fruits below a certain price, and, if they shipped on commission, not to ship to rival houses. Every trade and business these days has its union, even the workmen employed by the fruit grower, and, if he, alone, will not agree to co-operate with his brother fruit grower, he must expect to get



FIG. 2772. G. C. CREELMAN, B.S.A.