

the man, who perhaps spent years in its production by means of hybridization, or by careful selection of seedlings, and thus has conferred a lasting benefit upon the public, should himself go unrewarded. Sometimes, it is true, as in the case of the Niagara Grape Co., a corporation who has plenty of money under its control is able to control the stock as to make a fortune out of it, but more often it occurs that the person, who is the originator of a new and valuable variety of fruit, goes almost entirely unrewarded for his labors, while others reap unmerited good fortune. For instance, the originator of the Worden grape, a grape which is valued as one of the best for the commercial vineyardist to plant, is said to be now a poor man, having received nothing to speak of from the sale of the grape which bears his name. Of course, if the originator is also a nurseryman, he will find means to make the most of his introduction. But suppose an ordinary fruit grower or farmer throughout our country should succeed in this direction, what reward has he? He will attempt the sale of it to some nurseryman who, naturally enough, will disparage its merits and make the purchase at the very lowest price.

Now, there has lately been a scheme introduced by a joint committee of the California State Horticultural Society and the California State Floral Society, which contemplates the submission of a bill to Congress embodying a system for the National Registration, also a second bill providing for the exclusive propagation and sale rights for a limited time to originators.

The National Plant Register would be a very elaborate, but at the same time a very interesting affair. It would contain: 1st, the number; 2nd, the official name; 3rd, the popular and local names or synonyms; 4th, description; 5th, short history and a statement of the peculiarities and habits of the plant; and 6th, in many cases, if not always, a photograph, drawing, or series of photographs or drawings, of the plant, fruit or flower.

Originators of new varieties of plants who do not wish to secure exclusive sale rights would have the right to offer them for registration with the proposed name, and if they are accepted, the originator would be entitled to a certificate, securing to him the honor or prestige to which he is entitled.

If, on the other hand, he desires to have sale rights for a certain term of years, these would be granted him upon the payment of a certain sum.

Of course, this proposed scheme would involve a great number of difficulties, such as, for instance, the difficulty of carefully distinguishing new from old varieties, owing to the varying characteristics of any particular variety, according to the locality in which it is grown. Many of the obstacles, however, can be overcome in a greater or less degree, and it seems to us very desirable that an attempt should be made to carry out this scheme in Canada, or some modification of it. The subject is worthy of discussion at our meetings, and, if feasible, should be presented by a committee, appointed by the Dominion Horticultural Society, for the consideration of the Dominion Parliament.