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Cold Storage for Fruit

THE need of the hour in connection with the apple trade of this country is cold storage. There are millions of marketable apples wasted every year because of this need. Instances could be given without number of the products of orchards wasted or put upon the market in poor condition, entailing a great loss to the producer, the shipper and the consumer. We say consumer because very frequently he is the loser, as when he buys a barrel or box of apples that have been overheated and out of condition. Everybody, therefore, would be greatly benefited by some system of cold storage that would enable the grower to preserve his fruit in good condition for the best market.

The apple trade, as at present conducted in Canada, is largely a gamble. Little or no system is shown in handling the business. The shipper hustles over the country contracting for orchards. He often contracts for more than he can handle properly. Especially has this been the case this fall, when large quantities of good apples have fallen off before the pickers and packers could overtake the work, with the result that a great deal of the crop will be lost, though we have heard of one or two instances where shippers have barreled up these wind-falls and are sending them forward to the old land as hand-picked, carefully packed fruit. While it is no doubt necessary for every one connected with the business to hustle as soon as the season opens, there seems to be more confusion and carelessness in the handling of the fruit crop of this country than any other branch of our trade.

Wherein lies the remedy? In co-operation and cold storage. If growers, and especially the smaller growers, would co-operate, not only in the picking, packing and selling of their fruit, but also in spraying their orchards and protecting them from insect pests, greater economy could be exercised in handling it, and the fruit would reach the consumer in better condition. But co-operation will not do everything. Adequate cold storage facilities should be supplied in order that the fruit, as soon as it has been carefully picked and packed, may be preserved for the market in the best condition. With proper cold storage our summer and early fall apples could be kept for market up to November, at least, and perhaps longer, our late fall apples, till well on in the winter, say February or March, and

our hardy winter varieties from that time till the new fruit comes in again. Such a regulation of the trade may seem somewhat idealistic, but there is no reason whatever why it cannot be carried out, if well equipped cold storage warehouses are established in the various apple growing centres.

Agricultural Implements at the Fall Fairs

A disappointing feature in connection with the agricultural departments of our large fall exhibitions is the weakness of the farm implement display. Toronto Exhibition was woefully lacking in this regard, as were also London, Ottawa and other large fairs, and it is time that something were done to change matters in this regard.

THIS IS YOUR CHANCE

We want good reliable men to work for us in every county in Canada. If your fall fair has not yet been held, write at once for our special terms to agents to work for us at the fall shows. You can see the fairs in your district, have a good time and make a little on the side in addition. **The time is short. Don't delay.**

When the fall fairs are over there are plenty of opportunities offering to secure subscribers, such as auction sales, farmers' meetings, etc.

Sample copies and outfit sent on application.

It is several years now since the agricultural implement men decided to give up exhibiting machinery at the fairs, the chief reason assigned was that it entailed more expense and time in fitting up and maintaining the exhibit than it was worth. We have no quarrel with them for having come to this decision. At the same time there were strong reasons then, and which are very much stronger to-day, why the implement men, as well as the exhibitors of live stock and agricultural products should do their share towards keeping up and maintaining the agricultural end of our larger fairs. To-day, as never before, the farmer is looking for improved and up-to-date farm machinery. The scarcity of farm help has compelled him to turn his attention to this matter as a means of helping him over this difficulty. He visits the fall fair with the hope of seeing if there is any new improvement in the way of farm machinery on the market, and is, of course, greatly disap-

pointed in not finding anything in the way of an adequate or respectable display of the implements of the farm. Some few of the smaller concerns contribute somewhat to the display, but the big attractions of the past in the way of farm implement exhibits are conspicuous by their absence.

Of course, if the larger implement men refuse to make a display, it is hard to see what can be done by exhibition managers and others to induce them to do so. It does seem a pity, however, to have, what was always a most attractive display and could be made so again, a genuine farm implement exhibit, left out in connection with our exhibitions. With very few exceptions, no exhibitor, either of live stock or anything else, gets a sufficient direct cash return to pay him for the time and trouble required to make an exhibit, and why should the implement men be entitled to any special consideration in this regard. If everyone viewed the situation from their narrow point of view, we would have no exhibitions at all, and their great educational value to the country would be lost. While we would not presume to dictate to the manufacturers of farm machinery what they should do, we feel like appealing to their sense of fair play and their patriotism in this matter. The exhibition people want a display of agricultural implements, the farmer wants it, and it is up to the manufacturers of farm implements to meet their wishes.

The Beginning of Modern Agriculture

For thousands of years the world made little advancement agriculturally. At the beginning of the nineteenth century about the same implements were in use on the farm as were to be found in the days when Ruth gleaned in the fields of Boaz. Agriculture at that time had not risen much above the sickle, the flail and the "old familiar rush of the winnowing mill." The plow in common use was about of the same kind as the one Cincinnatus abandoned when called to battle for the imperiled liberties of ancient Rome. The agriculture of to-day is, therefore, a distinctly modern movement, and we do not have to go back very many years to reach a period when the inventions and methods of the present day were unknown.

For many centuries the farmer's calling was one of intense drudgery and performed by brute strength only. The idea of saving labor by utilizing brains and skill never occurred to anyone, the tiller of the soil trudged