

THE FARM BULLETIN.

New Brunswick Agricultural Appropriations.

fect condition, showing little or no loss. Of course, it is easy to see that some of the apples taken out of cold storage showed a large loss, but where this is the case, it immediately presupposes bad handling before they went into cold storage.

It is a mistake, also, to think that the loss in apples is confined to Spies. This is by no means the case. Greenings showed a large loss this year where they were kept in ordinary storage and were not disposed of early in the season; and I believe that if exact records were taken of the earlier winter varieties, it would be noted that all these were somewhat earlier than usual, and all would show a loss where any attempt was made to prolong their season.

The remedy, therefore, for this loss in storage depends in some degree upon the mode of culture of which I say nothing, but more particularly upon the time of picking and the promptness with which they get into an atmosphere as nearly 32 degrees as possible. If the climate enables one to do this in ordinary storehouses, well and good. If the climate is not suitable for this purpose, then artificial refrigeration must be resorted to, if the same results are to be secured.

if the same results are to be secured. In noting all the causes, I should like to put in a word for exceedingly small wounds, some of them almost too small to be detected by the naked eye, that are accountable for rot spots. Insects of various sorts will sometimes make a very slight prick in the skin, allowing the development of rot spores. Sometimes the ordinary scab will appear a mere speck upon the skin, so small as scarcely to be noticeable, and yet it will often be found that the decay on the diseased apple started in one of these minute specks. I examined, a few days ago, a number of decayed apples, just as they came from the package, and in no case could I find a decayed apple where there had not been ample evidence of a slight break in the skin. I mention this to show that many conditions, besides climatic, have to do with the keeping qualities of apples.

A. McNEILL.

And then, quite apart from all conditions that we may fairly class as natural, we have the individual treatment of the fruit with reference to culture, time of picking, and the conditions under which it is stored.

In your issue of April 6th, page 597, you quote someone concerning the pruning of the Vinifera Vine. The said "someone" is evidently not in close touch with grape-growing in California. While more than half of the vineyards are grown and pruned without stakes, as illustrated, yet a large portion are staked and trellised. I have twelve acres of Thompson's seedless raisin grape vines that are staked. Each vine has a stake, to which it is tied. My neighbor, adjoining, has a twenty-acre piece of the same kind of vines, staked as mine, with the addition of two wires stretched along each row of stakes. Several varieties of table grapes, also, have to be staked.

Most of our pruning is done by Japanese coolies, who are paid by the thousand vines, and, of course, they are in a hurry. They cut the vine anywhere between the nodes, and yet old vineyards do not show any evil effects therefrom.

It may interest Canadians to know that a heavy frost a couple of weeks ago cut the California peach and raisin crops in two. It is evident that high prices will rule for raisins and dried apples for the next 18 months.

Fresno Co., California. HIRAM PETTIT.

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The new work undertaken this year in horticulture includes not only the oversight and maintenance of some twenty-five illustration orchards in different parts of the Province, but also demonstration work on matured, bearing orchards. Three of these have been taken hold of by Provincial Horticulturist Furney, one at Corndale, Albert County; one at Maugerville, Sunbury County, and one at Douglas, York County. These orchards have been pruned and thoroughly sprayed twice, and further sprayings will be made. The fruit will be thinned, and when harvested will be carefully graded, packed and marketed.

The Poultry Superintendent is devoting most of his time to the holding of meetings and giving demonstrations of actual work. He gives instructions in the building of colony houses, and assists in the co-operative marketing of eggs and of poultry, and has been assisting all who wish to start with pure-bred flocks to get good stock and good eggs.

The work for the extension of markets has been principally in helping to place New Brunswick potatoes on the Cuban market.

The encouragement of stock-raising takes the form of importing pure-bred stock when there is a shortage among New Brunswick breeders, and in assisting in the holding of central auction sales of pure-bred stock.

The other items mentioned are not new, and are self-explanatory under the headings given. The increase of the agricultural appropriation for 1911 over 1910 is about \$7,000.

traces sometimes resist perfectly, and, at the present time, the scale has lost some of the virulence of its early days." At the close of the section devoted to this insect, reference is again made to its lessened vigor, as compared with its earlier years with us, in the following words: "There is no doubt that this insect has lost much of its original vitality during the years that it has been with us, and that it is now much less resistant to our climatic and other conditions. With the insecticide battery now at our disposition, it need no longer be greatly feared, though it is not to be despised by the well-informed fruit-grower."

United States Postmaster-General Hitchcock announces that at the end of the fiscal year the \$17,500,000 deficit inherited two years ago will be turned into a surplus. For the first six months of the year the revenues were \$118,573,817, and the expenditures but \$40,863 more. Since the administration began, 3,089 new post-offices were opened, delivery by carriers provided for 142 additional cities, and 2,124 new rural routes of 51,230 miles in length opened; 8,274 men have been added to the staff, and salaries have been increased.

The rural carriers now receive \$871 salary, on an average. The railways receive the same rates for carrying the mails, and there was no increase in postal rates. The wiping out of the deficit has been effected not by curtailing service or cutting down salaries, but by stopping small leaks, improved methods of handling postal business, and requiring full work for good pay. It is believed that a parcel-post system will soon be in sight.