

Revised Apple Rating

A number of important recommendations were made by the Canadian Apple Growers who met in Vancouver, B.C., under the chairmanship of Mr. Maxwell Smith, during the First Canadian National Show. It was recommended that the meeting of the Pomological Society of America should appoint a committee to revise the rating for apples, making it a double rating consisting of quality and commercial value. It was also recommended that each district having a local pomological society be requested to make recommendations to the parent body in regard to the particular product of the district so that the Pomological Society would have the necessary data to assist them in the work of revision.

The last recommendation was to the effect that the rating of apples be revised as follows: Macintosh Reds from 5.6 to 8.9; Winesaps from 7.8 to 9; Spies from 8.9 to 10; and Baldwins from 5.0 to 6.6; the maximum to remain at 10. These recommendations, which were unanimously adopted, were brought forward by a committee, consisting of Professors Rowe and Newell, and Mr. Martin Burrell, M.P., all judges at the Apple Show, and who had been appointed for the purpose.

CAUSE FOR CHANGE

The chairman pointed out that during the twelve years since the rules of the society were adopted, many changes had taken place in the cultivation of the apple. Many new varieties had been successfully produced while many of the older species had been improved out of all recognition. He gave it as his personal opinion that the apple should now be graded only upon the degree of perfection to which it could be grown in any given district. That, he thought, was the only way in which to encourage the fruit growers to produce the varieties which their climatic environment enabled them to produce in the highest degree. If a certain apple could be grown to better advantage in British Columbia than in Nova Scotia

then he thought that that particular apple should be rated upon the standard of excellence reached in this province and not

claimed as an inferior quality because its cultivation was not successful in other parts.

New Brunswick Apple Show

Prof. J. W. Crow, O. A. C., Guelph, Ont.

THE east is being rediscovered. "I am clearing timber from my farm and planting apple trees on land which fifty years ago was growing hay and grain." This interesting statement was made by Mr. C. N. Vroom, of St. Stephen, President of the New Brunswick Fruit Growers' Association. The conditions mentioned are not, of course, prevalent over large areas of New Brunswick, but President Vroom's statement throws, nevertheless, a good deal of light on the present agricultural condition of that deserted province.

New Brunswick has every natural advantage which could be mentioned and lacks only the people, without whom development cannot be made. Land for fruit growing purposes is available at prices ranging from \$10 to \$50 per acre, and is quite unlike the land of the eastern states, such as Massachusetts, in that it has not been exhausted by continuous cropping. New Brunswick land, comparatively speaking, is good, and is still capable of producing excellent crops of potatoes, hay, grain, apples, and similar crops. So far as the ability to produce fruit of high quality is concerned, the recent splendid exhibition in St. John, N.B., has demonstrated that New Brunswick has the climate as well as the soil.

New Brunswick is apparently identical in every respect with Duchess, but it is said positively to have sprung from a seed of that variety on the farm of the late Mr. Frank Sharpe. Dudley's Winter is a variety which would seem to be of particular value to Ontario planters. It ripens with Wealthy, is above medium in size, good to very good in quality, and most attractively colored. The tree is

hardy and productive and the fruit withstands handling as well as any variety of its season. Bethel is a dark red winter apple of fair quality, and is probably the hardiest good winter apple we have.

Other varieties which were in evidence in considerable quantities, but which are not recommended for commercial planting, were Golden Russet, King, Spy, Greening, Baldwin, Bishop Pippin (Bellflower), Tolman Sweet, Ben Davis, Gravenstein, Ribston and Blenheim.

New Brunswick fruit growers claim to have the best facilities for reaching the British market of any point in Canada. They are, of course, geographically much nearer Great Britain than is Ontario, but it must be borne in mind that until the middle of November the better class of fruit carrying vessels sail from Montreal. After navigation closes in the St. Lawrence, St. John is their winter port, and so far as winter conditions are concerned their claim is well founded. St. John has a splendidly equipped cold-storage plant, and this will probably be made use of by New Brunswick and Nova Scotia fruit growers and will be of great assistance in regulating shipments to the Old Country.

Considerable quantities of Ontario fruit have been stored in St. John at various times. But this season on account of the light crops in Ontario and in the east as well, there are no apples in storage at that point.

New Brunswick and Nova Scotia expect in a few years' time to have the British market very largely to themselves. They are looking to the time when Ontario and Western Canada will consume the greater portion of the crop produced in Ontario and British Columbia.

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