

last. Two reasons weighed with the committee in choosing this somewhat late date, first the Provincial Show would be then fully opened and the fruit more fully ripened the season being later than usual. As far as regards the weather, the time chosen was most unfortunate, as it rained the greater part of the time during that particular week, but cleared up on the last day (Saturday) after which followed weeks of delightful weather.

The number of entries made was over 1600, being considerably in excess of any previous year. The very large building used for the show was well filled, though doubtless some persons, owing to the heavy storm on the morning of opening, were unable to place all their exhibits in time. One of the great difficulties about a horticultural show, is to give it variety and change from year to year. Owing to the removal of the large platform at the end of the rink, the building was made more spacious, and by the erection of two large stands, it became possible to give the exhibition an unusually fine and pleasing appearance. The display of plants was very large, and certainly as far as foliage plants are concerned, nothing so fine has ever before been shown in Montreal—in fact, competent judges said that the *Coleus* plants shown were finer than they had ever seen even in Europe. It may, perhaps, be difficult for the visitor to note from year to year the advancement that is being made, but in some classes, plants that would have stood high 5 or 6 years ago, would receive no awards now. In no department is this fact more noticeable than in that of the amateurs. Some of the plants shown by them this year were particularly good. This department of the show, though, lost a large exhibitor by the removal of Mr. James Dickson, of Point St. Charles, to the United States, as he had been for several years one of the principal amateur exhibitors.

The display of cut bloom was probably the largest ever made here, in fact, so large, that additional trays had to be provided, in order that all might find accommodation. The Messrs. Bell, of Quebec, again made a very fine show of Dahlias and Gladioli, and were very successful in obtaining prizes.

The vegetable display was exceedingly good, but the exhibit of fruit was not nearly as large as that of last year, owing to the cold.