

mentioned will usually control the forest tent caterpillars. Their presence is not so readily discovered, as they erect no tent in the tree as does the apple tent caterpillar. The two kinds often occur on the same tree.

As the time is past for spraying to have any effect on these pests active efforts should be made during the fall to destroy all the egg masses. As has been pointed out, it is a good plan to enlist the boys and girls for this work.

Avoid Waste

An important thing for farmers to learn is to avoid waste. Whether a crop of wheat yields 30 bushels or only 10 bushels per acre taxes have to be paid. The waste lands around the fences or around stumps are not deducted by the assessor when making his assessment. It is important then, that every piece of land on the farm, where at all possible, should be made to produce as much as possible.

This subject of waste is very well put in the following from the pen of a practical farmer :

"We pay taxes on land that we do not farm ; we only half cultivate our fields and so waste both land and labor ; we leave a large percentage of the crop in the field ; we waste time and capital in raising inferior animals ; we waste energy in trying to do more than one man can do right ; we waste money in buying what we should raise ourselves ; we waste opportunities to improve our condition by staying away from institutes and fairs and by neglecting to read papers ; we waste—in a thousand ways—and then we are ready to say 'farming don't pay.' And it is no wonder"

Of Interest to Fruit Growers

At a meeting of fruit growers held at Grimsby last week at the call of the Executive of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association a strong resolution was passed deprecating the dishonest packing of apples for export, and urging upon the Dominion Minister of Agriculture to take steps to prevent the repetition of such fraudulent practices. It was suggested that certain marks or numbers be adopted to indicate certain grades and sizes of apples, and that it be made a misdemeanor for anyone to stamp these marks or numbers on the outside of his packages unless the contents of the packages are in accordance therewith, and that the name and address of the owner and shipper be always required on closed packages intended for export ; and that an inspector be appointed with power to open packages and, if found fraudulent, to expose or punish the offender ; and it was further suggested that the terms used for grading by "No. 1" and "A No. 1," No. 1 to include sound apples reasonably free from worm holes, scabs or other blemishes, and to be not less than two and a half inches in diameter, and grade A No. 1 the same, with apples not less than three inches in diameter.

It was also recommended that efforts be made to establish a market in Great Britain for certain varieties of Canadian grapes, having superior flavor and excellent carrying qualities—such as the Rogers—and that the Government export a large quantity of these grapes the coming season. A similar request in regard to the Rogers grape was made by the Burlington Horticultural Association at a meeting also held last week.

At the Burlington meeting the Dominion Government was strongly urged to fix a standard barrel for all kinds of green fruit both for domestic and foreign trade, and that such a barrel be twenty-seven inches in length, seventeen inches at the end and nineteen inches through the centre, inside measurements. A resolution was also adopted, recommending the continuance by the Provincial Government of the inspection of trees infested with the San Jose Scale, and the removal and destruction of all such infested trees, and that owners should be adequately compensated where a loss is sustained through such inspection.

All these recommendations seem to be along the right

line, especially that referring to the dishonest packing of fruit. Urgent measures are needed to prevent the recurrence of fraudulent packing this fall and the branding of every barrel or package with a mark or number indicating its quality would help matters very much. But still the grading of the fruit would be left almost entirely to the packer, as it would be impractical to have an inspector on hand to see that every package contains the quality which the marking represents. However, the fact that every package was liable to be examined by an inspector would deter many from practising such frauds as disgraced the name of Canada last fall. The recommendation to have the name of the owner or shipper stamped on every barrel should be carried out in any case, as no packer would care to have any dishonest practices brought to his very door.

Strawberry Culture

There is no more pleasant or wholesome fruit grown than strawberries, and what is best about them they can be grown on every farm without very much trouble. What is required most is a little care and attention in the way of cultivation, and preparing the land and the selection of good plants. The soil cannot be too well prepared, the more work put upon it at that time the less it will require in the future.

For field culture it is a good plan to plant in rows 3½ or 4 feet apart, with plants 18 inches apart in the rows, or about 8,000 plants per acre. For garden culture rows about 3 feet apart will do or along the border of the paths, if there is room to use the hoe. Some prefer the hill system, while others like the matted row. Where barnyard manure is used it should be worked in from the top of the soil with a harrow ; it is then placed in reach of the roots. When plowed under it is seldom reached by them.

Success depends in a great measure upon getting fine, healthy plants, strictly pure and true to name. As to the best variety to plant it is hard to say. It is well, however, to plant three or four varieties, as some may do better than others under different climatic conditions. Large berries will always command good prices if offered for sale, though for long shipment solid varieties with good color and quality are necessary. In any case, it is important to have well rooted, strong, healthy plants. Little, long-rooted ones, with little or no crown, should not be used ; the extreme long roots are no good, but the strong branched roots from the crown are what is needed. The plants should be set properly ; the top of the crown where the leaves come out should be just above the surface, and after the plant is set the soil should be levelled down around it.

There is some difference of opinion as to the best time to plant strawberries. Some claim that the spring is the best time to plant them, while others are just as strong in the opposite view. When planted in the spring they should be kept hoed and cultivated till winter sets in. The plants should be covered as soon as the ground is frozen with straw or strawy manure, in which there are no weed seeds, and a light furrow made between the rows to draw off the surplus water, which is very injurious to strawberries during the winter or early spring.

A writer in the *Ohio Farmer* has this to say re fall and spring planting :

"The one danger of fall planting is heaving by frost. This can easily be prevented by mulching with strawy manure or other litter, directly over the plants. Do not neglect this and do not cover too early. But if it is a dry fall then cover the soil with straw around the plants in order to hold the moisture. What we gain by planting in the fall. First : If plants are planted in the fall nearly one year's growth is secured as compared with following spring. Second : You can buy plants cheaper in the fall than in the spring. Third : You have more time to plant in the fall than in the spring. Fourth : If you plant in the fall the work is done, but if you postpone until spring other work may prevent and it may be years before the planting