



Gathering the Apple Crop—Orchard of E. J. Hibbert, Kentville, N.S.

the branches little damage is done to the tree by removing them. Spraying with arsenate of lead or Paris green just before the caterpillars are due to make their appearance is an effective remedy, but most orchardists do not care to spray this late in the season. Sometimes enough poison remains on the leaves from the last spray for codling worm to be effective in destroying this pest. Keeping a sharp lookout for the webs and removing them is about the only remedy necessary.

Storing Fruits

Henry Gibson, Staatsburg, Ont.

Fruit as a general thing is best when it fully ripens on the tree, but the winter sorts of course do not ripen until some time after being gathered. One cannot be too careful in gathering fruit. Careless picking and packing may show no bad results at the time, but every bruise, no matter how slight, is liable to develop into a rot spot under the first favorable circumstances, and spread ruin to the lot.

Apples and pears should be kept in a cool, dark place where the air is cool, but never wet, and where the temperature will not go below freezing. They should be stored loosely and not more than half a foot to a foot thick on slatted shelves. If such conditions do not obtain with you and they must necessarily be kept in a dry, heated place, pack, using only perfect fruit, in tight boxes or barrels, or in sand, moss, or leaf mould to prevent shrivelling.

The man in the orchard is always a good citizen

Varieties of Plums

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

In plums, the three most profitable varieties in the best plum districts are Burbank, Bradshaw, and Reine Claude. As an early plum of fine appearance and quality, Shiro is coming into favor. Burbank is valuable for early shipment, but should not be marketed until it has attained a fair degree of maturity. If placed on the market in an immature condition, it will sell because of its splendid color, but is a disappointment to purchasers.

In cherries, the one variety of greatest value is Montmorency. Richmond is also valuable on account of its earliness, but I know of no other varieties which are worthy of extensive planting. Sour cherries, such as the two varieties mentioned, may be successfully grown in all the lake districts and throughout most of older Ontario. The sweet cherry is capable of much less extensive cultivation in a commercial way; in fact, there are very few districts in the province which can grow sweet cherries successfully in comparison with the sour varieties.

The orchard should be cultivated as early in the spring as possible.—Prof. J. W. Crow, O.A.C., Guelph, Ont.

The shot-hole borer cannot reproduce in a healthy tree. It will attack a tree lacking vigor. To prevent infection, it is a good thing to see that the dead trees are taken out before the first of April.—Prof. L. Caesar, O.A.C., Guelph, Ont.

Ontario Fruit Wins

D. E. Lothian, B. S. A.

To successful fruit growers in Ontario the announcement lately made that the province had achieved great success, first at the Cleveland, and later at the Canadian Apple Show in Winnipeg, will not come as a surprise. Time and again the provincial fruit authorities have told us that Ontario fruit so far as flavor is concerned, is quite as high, if not higher in quality than the best fruit in the West. It is still the old complaint that the only thing which deters Ontario fruit from taking its rightful place, in the competitions, is the lack of care in packing, and handling the fruit before packing, on the part of those engaged in the business.

Those who were chiefly successful in the late show at Winnipeg, were W. L. Hamilton, of Collingwood, and The Bethen Break Orchard Co. of Waterdown. The Ontario government also got a first prize for their show of apples, peaches, grapes, pears and plums.

While we do not expect that Ontario growers can make any sudden change from the barrel to the box pack, in order that their fruit may compete successfully with that of British Columbia and the Western States, still we think that these results should tend to bring them around to the idea that the box is not too high a class package for well cared for fruit grown in this province of Ontario. Our best growers have no doubt long recognized this as the actual state of affairs, but commercial success is dependent not on the few recognizing the situation aright, but rather on the combined effort of the masses towards adopting cooperative packing of a high class nature.

Destroy Tent Moth Eggs Now

David Roxburgh, Montreal

For many years past we have been troubled in the early summer with the caterpillar scourge. Each successive year has proved to be more severe than its predecessor. In past years we have always been too late in dealing with this pest. As a timely suggestion now that the trees have undergone defoliation, in the case of young orchards at least, we would recommend that the egg clusters which are laid on the younger twigs of the trees, be removed.

The egg clusters are very clearly visible and appear like thickened abnormal wood growth, but when observed more closely they are found to be white, with a brownish covering. In the case of older orchards, where the branches are too high, it is probably better to wait till the early spring and to burn the tents immediately they are formed by the young caterpillars.