

be loaded on the steamers, and thus are never inspected.

Provision should be made that where a shipper has been convicted, on several occasions, of fraudulent work, the fine imposed should be sufficient to deter further practices of that nature. It might be well, even, to make imprisonment of such offenders possible. The Department of Agriculture would do well also to publish the names of all parties convicted twice in the same season of fraudulent packing.

### A SHARPER CAUGHT AGAIN

Some weeks ago considerable attention was drawn to the case of an Ontario apple shipper who was detected by the Dominion Department of Agriculture in an attempt to re-mark, fraudulently, barrels of apples just before they were placed on board at Portland, Me. Recently the same offender was caught in another piece of sharp work. One of the Dominion fruit inspectors examined his fruit in his warehouse and passed it as having been correctly marked. Suspecting, however, that an attempt might be made to re-mark these barrels, the inspector in question boarded a passenger train and reached Montreal before the fruit had arrived.

The inspector waited in the Grand Trunk yards, and when the train with the fruit arrived, he found that the cars containing the barrels were occupied by a man who had re-marked the barrels while they were in transit. The result was that the Department took action and the offender was fined \$80 and \$40 costs. This is the first occasion upon which action has been taken under the Fruit Marks Act for changing marks. The packer in this case has been convicted four times this season for breaking the Fruit Marks Act.

A great mistake is made by some British Columbia fruit growers in trying to ship their fruit too ripe. California found out, many years ago, that a critical stage to pick was when the fruit had its full color and tasted natural. They soon found by experience, when the fruit was past the "green" taste, and the seed of apple, pear or peach was past the "milk" or slightly cream, the fruit was fully matured, and could be depended on to "carry" a long way. Orchard foremen do naught but see to the time of picking at the proper stage; by tasting, cutting and inspecting every day, till a certain stage is reached. Their knowledge to the shipping public has placed California fruit on all marts of the world. Many an orchardist of the west and middle west of the United States has found ready employment in this special line in the great fruit belts of the coast and interior British Columbia. Local fruit growers who now ship too ripe, should follow the teachings of these men and, thereby, help to raise the standard of that portion of British Columbia fruit that is not up to the plane that the province is striving to attain.

Since last fall, the work of inspecting the fruit that passes through the port of Montreal for export has been done more thoroughly than ever before. The work has been under the direction of Mr. M. R. Baker, one of the Dominion fruit inspectors, who is deserving of much credit for the improvement that has taken place. Last fall the method of inspecting the fruit was largely reorganized, more attention being given to the inspecting of the fruit that passed through the city during the night. The result is that the number of inspections made has shown an increase of over one-third more than the best year since the Fruit Marks Act came into force. Fruit passing through Montreal at night, now, is as likely to be inspected as that loaded on the steamers during the day. This is as it should be.

THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST is a national publication, not local. Its articles are prepared for the horticulturists of all Canada.

In every issue may be found articles and news notes from writers in each province of the Dominion. This issue contains many articles of particular value to the fruit growers of British Columbia. All persons interested in the fruit industry of that province are invited to subscribe. The price is only fifty cents a year.

### Our Loss is Their Gain

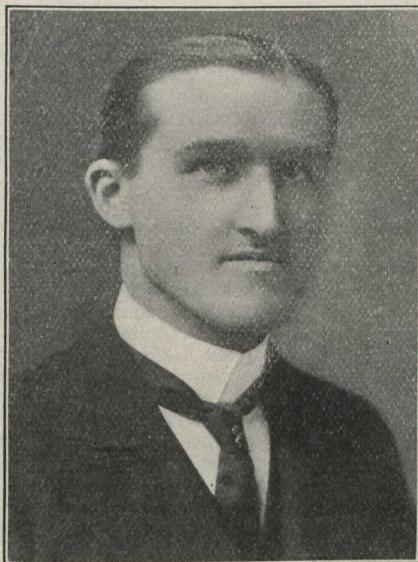
It is announced that Prof. F. C. Sears, horticulturist at the Agricultural College, Truro, N.S., has been appointed professor of pomology at the Massachusetts Agricultural College, Amherst, Mass. The news will be received with regret by the horticulturists of Canada, particularly those in Nova Scotia, as Professor Sears has many friends, and has done excellent work in that province.

About 10 years ago he was offered and ac-

cepted the position of director of the Nova Scotia school of horticulture, supported by the provincial government. He conducted this school very ably up to the time of its merger with the Nova Scotia Agricultural College at Truro, when he became professor of horticulture of that institution. His work has been along broad lines, teaching, experimental work and extension work, and as Nova Scotia is a great fruit district, especially in the apple line, he has become very proficient and expert on pomological lines. He is regarded as a prominent authority by the people connected with the departments of agriculture in Washington and in Canada, and the trustees of the Nova Scotia agricultural college offered him a raise of \$500 in salary to stay with the provincial institution. Canadians hope that Professor Sears will reconsider the matter and remain on this side of the line. His services are needed in the development of Maritime horticulture.

## The Niagara Experiment Station

THE newly-appointed director of the Horticultural Experiment Station at Jordan Harbor, Ont., is H. S. Peart, B.S.A., late lecturer in horticulture at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph. Mr. Peart was born at Nelson, Ont., near Burlington,



H. S. Peart, B.S.A.

and is a son of Edwin Peart, a well-known general fruit grower of that locality. Director Peart is a cousin of A. W. Peart, provincial fruit experimenter for the Burlington district, and a director of The Horticultural Publishing Co. He lived on the fruit farm of his father until 1899, when he undertook a course at the O.A.C., Guelph, specializing in horticulture and graduating in 1903. Immediately after graduation, he was appointed assistant in horticulture at the same institution, succeeding A. B. Cutting, B.S.A., now horticultural editor of THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST. Mr. Peart filled the position with credit until his appointment to Jordan Harbor, June 1, 1907. With the support of the fruit growers of the province, Mr. Peart will endeavor to work out many perplexing problems that can be solved only by the patient, accurate application of science with practice and by the earnest cooperation of all persons concerned.

The work this season at the Horticultural Experiment Station at Jordan Harbor, Ont., will be mainly constructive. Between 10 and 11 miles of tile drain will be laid. An office and workbuilding and the director's residence will be

erected. The work of clearing the land, which was started one year ago, will be continued and the experimental blocks laid out.

Some variety tests of vegetables have been undertaken to form a basis for selection work next season. Peas, beets, carrots, onions, spinach and corn are already planted. A few late potatoes will be set and given different cultural treatments. A small strawberry plantation will be put out to form a nucleus for succeeding years.

In an apple orchard, some 30 years old, a tillage experiment will be started. About one-third of the sod was broken last autumn. About one-third has been plowed this spring. The balance will be left in sod. The two plowed sections will receive the same tillage up to about July 15, when one-half of the spring and one-half of the fall-plowed sections will be sown with a cover crop; the remainder will be given clean tillage. This should form a valuable object lesson to illustrate the advantages or disadvantages of the various methods.

Some work at reclaiming the lake bank is being undertaken. The station hopes to be able to give some assistance to the residents along the lake who are face to face with the washing-out problem.

It is the intention of Mr. Rittenhouse to macadamize the road and lay a four-foot concrete pavement on the township line, which lies along the eastern boundary of the place. This will add materially to the value of the property and will afford an excellent object lesson for visitors.

Mr. Jas. Johnstone, who is president of the British Columbia Fruit Growers' Association, was instrumental in pioneering the growing of fruit in Kootenay and of bringing the great excellence of that district to public notice. He has filled many important offices, among them president of the Nelson Agricultural and Industrial Association and of the Kootenay Fruit Growers' Association. He is now president of the newly formed Fruit and Produce Exchange of British Columbia, which has for its chief object the distribution of all fruit in the province from a central office, so as to prevent the different local associations from sending too much fruit into any one market at one time; in fact, the even distribution of British Columbia fruit throughout the provinces of the west from Winnipeg to the Pacific coast. This is one of the most forward movements ever made in the fruit industry in any country. A portrait of Mr. Johnstone appears on page 179.

One Maynard plum tree, worth \$1.50, sent prepaid to every reader who will send us one new subscription to THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST at 50 cts. See our offer on page iv.