

QUESTION DRAWER.

but to buyers at least there are two other questions referring to fruit packages that require attention. One you have hammered at until it is almost headless, viz., the quality of fruit put into the packages. Is it possible to establish a standard? If so why is it not done? Why is it not made law that in packing fruit of all kinds, the name of the packer and the of the fruit and the quantity (net) shall be put upon every package. Of course a brand is a brand by law, but take grapes, pears, peaches, plums, raspberries, strawberries, etc., and there is more fraud than righteousness. I go to market and buy, say, a ten pound basket, if I do not get a nominal seven pound one, I do get only nine pounds. Then there are 15,

17, and 20 lb baskets and a buyer must be an expert to detect the fraud. The only cure for these miscellaneous packages is the one above suggested, viz.: Make it an act (of the Ontario Legislature I think) that every package of fruit offered for sale shall be labeled

Put up by
Containing 00 lbs net.

Peaches

or whatever there is in it.

Then perhaps fruit will be correctly and honestly put up. These are suggestions for your winter meeting. See page 420.

G. H. FAWCETT.

Ottawa.

* Open Letters. *

The Colored Plates.

SIR,—I notice of late some few giving their opinion about the plant distribution, but we hear nothing about those beautiful colored plates we used to have in each number. They would make a fine show in the bound volume, even one on the first page like 1897. I have mine set in frames, ten in each frame and think they are a good decoration for a fruit growers home. They are also some help in getting subscribers in this part, so I would rather see the plants discontinued than the colored fruit plates. Now why not make the December number a kind of a Christmas number, as it is the last volume for this century, and I believe it would be much better for agents at least, than the spring plant distribution.

D. N. ANDERSON.

Wyoming, Ont.

THE APPLE CROP of the United States in 1898 amounted 28,570,000 barrels, and this was counted an unusually short yield. This year, also a short yield, the amount is estimated at 35,100,000 barrels. The following is a showing of the

APPLE CROP OF THE UNITED STATES.

| Year | Barrels |
|------|------------|
| 1894 | 57,630,000 |
| 1895 | 60,540,000 |
| 1896 | 67,570,000 |
| 1897 | 41,537,000 |
| 1898 | 28,570,000 |
| 1899 | 35,100,000 |

The exports of American and Canadian apples, for the seasons given, are shown in the second table with this article. Liverpool was the largest receiver, that port being credited with 689,036 barrels; London coming next with 271,347 barrels, Glasgow 180,336 barrels and Hamburg 22,861 barrels following, all other receiving ports being credited with 57,512 barrels.

APPLE EXPORTS

| Year | Barrels |
|---------|-----------|
| 1891-92 | 1,450,336 |
| 1892-93 | 1,203,538 |
| 1893-94 | 174,841 |
| 1894-95 | 1,438,155 |
| 1895-96 | 756,415 |
| 1896-97 | 2,919,846 |
| 1897-98 | 913,996 |
| 1898-99 | 1,221,087 |