

# The Canadian Horticulturist

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## FREE TRADE OR AN EQUAL TARIFF.

The vegetable growers have decided that their plea before the tariff commission will be free trade or an equal tariff. In deciding to ask for an increase in the duty on only those vegetables that are the most largely produced in Canada and for only such an advance as will protect the Canadian grower without preventing the importation of such vegetables the officers of the Ontario Vegetable Growers' Association have acted wisely.

Many growers favored an increase in the duty on such vegetables as asparagus and melons. While an increase in the duty would be of great assistance to some producers the number is so limited while the consumption of such vegetables is so general strong opposition to such an increase would be aroused. This opposition would weaken the whole case of the growers and might result in their failing to gain an increase in the duty on the more important vegetables such as cabbages, cucumbers, tomatoes, etc.

The cry of the growers for free trade or an equal tariff is a just one and should strike the

public and the commission as such. The people of the United States are devoting more and more attention to the matter of free trade with Canada. In the demands of the vegetable growers they can find no reason for further reprisals on their part. This move of the vegetable growers is really in the direction of ultimate free trade.

## THE HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION.

In the Ontario Horticultural Exhibition the fruit, flower and vegetable growers of the province have a great opportunity. No better means of advertising the horticultural resources of Ontario than this exhibition could be devised and with proper management it should result in an increased demand for these products. The educational features, also, are of great importance.

This year four conventions will be held in connection with the exhibition. For these conventions several of the most noted speakers on the continent have been secured. Arrangements have been made for thorough discussions of the various subjects dealt with and nothing but good can result. With the prestige gained from last year's show and the benefit of having Massey Hall for this year's effort the exhibition this month should prove a credit to the province. It will mean dollars in the pockets of those fruit, flower and vegetable growers who are able to attend.

## SUCCESSFUL COOPERATION.

The success which this year has attended the work of the various cooperative fruit growers' associations in Ontario is most gratifying. The old associations at Chatham, Forest, Walkerton and other points have disposed of their apples in bulk at thoroughly satisfactory prices as have also the two new associations at Oakville and Thornbury. In most cases the apples have been purchased by British importers. In this way the growers who belong to the associations have saved the commissions of the dealers on this side who buy most of the crops.

The number of British commission firms which each year send representatives to Canada to contract for fruit is rapidly increasing. These men are glad to have the opportunity to purchase in bulk which the associations afford. Were there more associations in Canada it would soon be possible for most of our apples to be forwarded direct from the storage house of the associations to the importers and possibly to the retailers in Great Britain. This would mean a great saving to the grower and better satisfaction on the part of the purchaser. The natural growth of the cooperative movement is in the line of an increase in the number of these associations.

I consider The Horticulturist a vastly improved paper and feel sure that it will do much towards bringing the industry of fruit growing before the public.—(R. F. Robinson, St. Catharines, Ont.)