

limited list of fruits common to Manitoba. The exhibit of domestic preserves, etc., was quite a large one, the many different varieties of pickles exhibited being excellent and tastily put up.

The vegetable exhibit was splendid, more especially in point of quality rather than quantity, and although I had only time for a casual inspection of this exhibit, I saw sufficient to convince me that vegetables of first class quality can be grown around Winnipeg. The exhibit contained some fine specimens of almost every kind of vegetable to be seen in Ontario at the same season of the year.

One other splendid exhibit, I cannot omit to mention, and that is the one from the Pacific province. This was in charge of Mr. Palmer, the Commissioner of Fruits for British Columbia, and his assistant, Mr. Brandrith, both practical fruit growers of the western province. This exhibit demonstrated what our friends on the Pacific coast can do in growing small fruits. There was

a really grand exhibit of cherries. It is no exaggeration to say that they were in size as large as medium sized crab apples, of a firm fleshy texture and good color, and above all were in excellent condition after their trip over the Rockies. I think I am correct in saying that these cherries were shipped in ordinary ventilated cars. If so, they were in a really fine attractive condition for exhibition or sale, and I feel satisfied that if our Ontario fruit growers wish to compete successfully with the fruit growers of the Pacific coast they will have to put forth every effort to have our fruits from Ontario placed on the western markets in the very best condition so as to obtain a share of the immense market opening up from Winnipeg and west to the Rockies. The display of fruit from British Columbia was a source of great interest, and Mr. Palmer and his equally genial and affable assistant were kept busy answering questions and giving information concerning their excellent exhibit.

FLOWER AND PLANT LORE

EDWARD TYRRELL, TORONTO.

SUNFLOWER: This Peruvian plant has been named *Helianthus* from the Greek, *Helios*, sun, and *Anthos*, flower, because its corolla bears a resemblance to the great luminary of the day.

Uplift, proud Sunflower, to thy favorite orb,
That disk whereon his brightness loves to dwell;
And as thou seem'st his radiance to absorb,
Proclaim thyself the garden's sentinel.

—Barton.

Phillips, writing on the Sunflower, says that on account of its resemblance to the sun, it was used in the religious ceremonies of the ancient Peruvians, who worshipped the god of day. The virgins who officiated in the Temple of the Sun were crowned with the *Helianthus*, made of pure gold, and wearing them also on their breasts

and carrying them in their hands, which reflecting the rays of their deity by the brilliancy of the metals formed an effect of the most imposing grandeur.

History reminds us of the enormities which the treacherous Spaniards committed on the plains where this plant grows luxuriantly. These infatuated pilgrims attempted to enlighten the unfortunate natives, who, in the simplicity of their hearts, poured out their adoration to the sun as the grandest object which their imagination could conceive; so their glaring and favorite flower will ever remain a memento of the folly of those who attempt to inspire the ignorant with an idea of pure religion through the assistance of craft and cruelty.

The sunflower is generally considered