January. 1913





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Fruit Combine in the West

Replying recently to the charges that combine exists among the fruit dealers of the prairie provinces, Mr. W. H. Bunting of St. Catharines, stated that the charge was only partly true. In Winnips the combine had been broken by the St Catharines fruit growers.

arines fruit growers. "Some years ago," said Mr. Bunung. "an attempt was made by American firms to buy up all the wholesale fruit hences to the west. They succeeded in establishing a chain of houses under their controthroughout the west. Their object was to control the buying and selling through the western provinces, to prevent others from gaining a foothold. About three years ago when affairs became so strenuous in Winnp g that purchasers were at the marcy of the combine, the growers in the St Catharines Cold Storage Company established the wholesale firm of the McNaughton Fruit Exchange at Winnipeg. Thither the Ortario fruit was shipped. It was sold br auction to the consumer, with the result that people bought direct and prices began to drop. Since then several hundred Catloads of Niagara district fruit have beca sent to Winnipeg. Last fall two or three carloads were shipped daily, and the combine in Winnipeg areas west of Winnipeg "High freight rates west of Winnipeg"

"High freight rates west of Winnipeg have militated against eastern growers fighting the combine in Calgary, Edmonton and other cities. It costs twice as much to ship from Winnipeg to Calgary, a distance of eight hundred miles, as 't doe to ship from St. Catharines to Winnipeg, a distance of one thousand miles. We are fighting for lower rates, and hope soon to have them reduced. The Railway Commission has asked the C.P.R. to give reasons why the rates should not be reduced. As soon as the rates are reduced to Alberta and Saskatchewan eastern growers will at tempt to break the combine's high-handed work west of Winnipeg."

THE WEST ACTIVE

"In the meantime, as far as the more western points are concerned, such as Calgary, Regina, Moosejaw and Edmontor, British Columbia growers through the medium of the Vernon Fruit Exchange, have been working along the same line as we have in the east in a determined effort we place British Columbia fruit in the prairie cities independent of the organization which attempted to corrall the trade. The Vernon association has met with very good success and is I believe now on a satisfactory footing and promises to be of great value to British Columbia growers."

Items of Interest

Cherry Lans, a beautiful avenue leding from the roadway to Brown Brox.' Nursery offices at Fonthill, Ont., has long beau admired for its beauty. It is bordered ∞ either side by cherry trees, one row on each side. The product from these trees this year was 1800 baskets, all of which wen sold to the Pelham Canning Company. The price reached over \$1,800. The product

was the finest grown in the township. Quite a number of the orchard owners is the Meaford district, Ontario, have comonced setting out plantations of peaches Several have put out twenty to forty tree, and some have gone as high as two husdred. The varieties selected are for the most part Triumph, Carmen, F tzgerak. Elberta and Crawford.

Elberta and Crawford. Rev. W. M. Viney, of St. Cathalines, soc coeded last year in growing a co'ton plast from seed sown in the parsonage garden