

The Daylight Saving Bill

Editor, THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST,—The measure which was brought before the House of Commons during the past session and which is commonly known as the "Daylight Saving Bill," has been referred to a select committee to obtain evidence, and will no doubt be brought before the House again next session, and, unless strong representations are made, it will doubtless

become law. This bill will vitally affect fruit growers and farmers generally, particularly those branches of agriculture which have anything to do with the catching of trains.

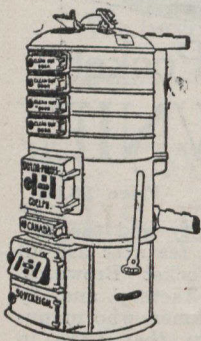
In the first place, it seems to me that the measure is intended to benefit a class of people who already have too much consideration at the hands of our Legislatures. It is proposed to put the clock back 80 minutes so that the city man will get up an hour and twenty minutes earlier than is his usual wont and that there will be that length of time for recreation after the close of business. If the measure becomes law, it means that the railway time tables will be made to conform to the new state of affairs, and the farmers who have to ship their milk to the city on the early morning trains, and who are obliged to

start milking anywhere between half past four and five in order to accomplish this, will virtually have to start their operations an hour earlier. I feel quite confident that the majority of farmers do not realize what this means. The farmer does not need to have the clock put back, as his business calls him early in the morning, and in the busy season such as haying and harvest, very often necessitates his working quite late in the evening. An hour and twenty minutes tacked on to the beginning of his day to suit city men who are too lazy to get up in the morning, is asking too much when one considers the very large proportion which the farmers form of our total population. With the fruit growers, especially in the Niagara district, the change of time will affect them at the latter part of the day, especially during the summer and fall, during the picking season. All those engaged in this business will remember that it is a very common thing to have to wait until the dew has become dried up on the bushes and trees before one can pick. This is particularly so in connection with berries, and if the trains are scheduled to start one hour and twenty minutes earlier than they are at the present time, it simply cuts that much time off the picking day.

A committee was formed last winter to confer with the representatives of the Canadian and Dominion Express Companies, to induce them if possible to rearrange our service, so that the growers would have a longer time to pick, but their great excuse was that they must be into Montreal in time for the early morning market, and in order to do this, it was necessary to start the trains when they did. If the Montreal market is held about eight o'clock under the present arrangement, I suppose the same time will hold good under the new regime, and this will necessitate arranging the schedule of trains according to the clock.

The matter in my opinion is too serious to be allowed to pass without some protest, and I therefore take the liberty of bringing the matter before you, and if the city men want to save the daylight, let the manufacturers open their factories at half past five a.m. and close at half-past four; they will then accomplish the same thing without adopting the childish method of putting the clock back.—A. E. Kimmins, Winona, Ont.

"SOVEREIGN"



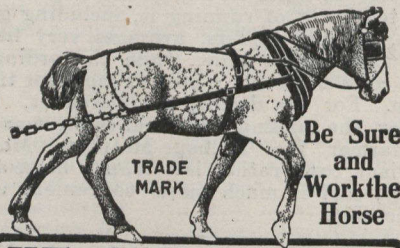
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Export Apples in Boxes

J. A. Webster, Sparta, Ont.

On apple boxes there is no use for the terms, "No. 1," "No. 2," or "No. 3," all boxed apples being clear of defects. I would advocate the use of some term, such as "Fancy," or "Choice," to designate grade and also the "count" of apples to designate size, and some term to designate under-colored fruit. I found, when in Great Britain last winter, that a buyer of boxed fruit could tell the size of the fruit that he was getting by counting the number of apples along the rows seen through the corner of the box, thereby verifying the stamp on the box. The count stamped on the box is a better way of designating size than the terms "No. 1" and "No. 2."

We cannot use too much care in delivering our apples in unbruised condition to the British market. I have seen apples, which had been handled much more carefully than eggs, selling at 20 cents each. These were stored each in its own nest of tissue paper, ranged on shelving about the wall. They were of varieties no better than our Canadian best varieties, but without a flaw or bruise.