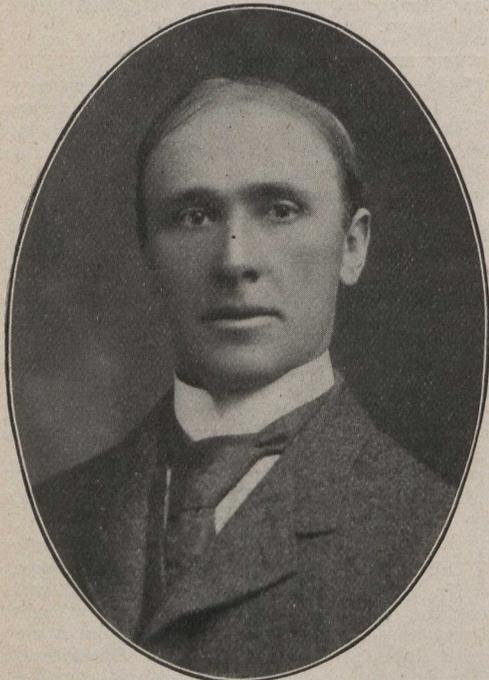


is not large. Musk melons will be in good supply, as they usually are; the main crop will be Extra Early Hackensack, Osage, Paul Rose and Rocky Ford. Only a very few acres of sweet corn will be grown. Ten or 12 new greenhouses were erected last fall and winter, most of them being small. Some of the larger growers have installed hot water and steam heating plants, Mr. J. L. Hilborn using hot water and J. D. Fraser and E. E. Adams steam. Some experimental work has been done during the past winter in growing lettuce, with good results; more will be grown next winter. Messrs. Hilborn and Fraser are planting a considerable quantity of tomatoes and cucumbers under glass for early spring market."—E. E. Adams, Leamington.

KENT COUNTY

"The growing of vegetables in this district is not confined to the market gardener, but, to a considerable extent, is done by the farmers.



A. McMeans, of Brantford

Mr. McMeans is the v.-pres. of the Ont. Vegetable Growers' Association, and has recently been appointed to have charge of the vegetable department, under Prof. H. L. Hutt, at the Ont. Agricultural College, at Guelph. This is a department that has received but slight attention in the past, and which is to be considerably extended from now on, under Mr. McMeans' direction. At the request of the Vegetable Growers' Association, the department has sent Mr. McMeans to N.Y., Mass., and other of the eastern states to ascertain what work is being done there to encourage vegetable growing, and to visit the places of some of the leading vegetable growers. He is a capable man, and for years has managed his own vegetable establishment at Brantford. In his new position he should do excellent work.

Most of the potatoes produced are grown in Chatham township, but for several seasons the crop has suffered severely from blight. This year, however, the acreage will be largely increased and there should be some for export. Onions are grown only in limited quantities, an acre being considered a large patch. The acreage is about as usual. There is a disposition to go more extensively into early tomatoes and an effort will be made to find an outside market. A number of our gardeners are growing tobacco, and report larger profits than from vegetables. The acreage in tobacco will be large."—Fred Collins, Chatham

SARNIA

"Gardeners have not done much planting or sowing, the season being backward. The acreage in vegetables promises to be above the average and prospects for a good season are bright. There seems to be a feeling that early potatoes are the best to grow. I would not be surprised to see an increased acreage of 25%. However, some farmers are going to grow sugar beets, and this may lessen the quantity of early potatoes grown by them."—W. A. B.

Benefits of Organization

At a meeting of the Toronto branch of the Vegetable Growers' Association last winter Mr. Thos. Delworth, of Weston, outlined the benefits to be derived by organization and by becoming a member of the Ontario Vegetable Growers' Association. The purchasing of supplies such as boxes, twine, Paris green, and greenhouse fittings were mentioned as being worthy of consideration.

Boxes cost 14 cents each, or more, whereas a few years ago they could be had for \$1.00 a dozen, with an extra box thrown in. It was suggested that a committee be appointed to go to the box manufacturers and see what reduction could be had if the members of the local association would agree to purchase their supplies from that factory. The association does not propose to buy these supplies but expects that an arrangement could be made so that by showing the membership card a reduction would be given on the regular prices. Each grower would be required to pay cash for what he purchased. The average grower in this section has to buy 50 to 75 or 80 boxes each season. It is not known where these boxes go, but through loss and breakages many new boxes have to be purchased each season.

The same was true in twine. The value of a single ball of twine was not very much, but the purchases of a season amounted to a considerable sum. During the past few years many growers in the vicinity of Toronto have erected greenhouses. Many instances were known where growers had gone to the firms that supplied boiler fittings and when the clerk found out that the prospective customer was not a regular dealer at that place, they either claimed that they had not the required line in stock, or if they sold them, three or four prices were charged. Something should be done whereby this injustice would be put to an end. The glass for these greenhouses should also be obtained at lower rates than at present.

By co-operation in getting supplies in these different requirements much could be done to lessen the expense to the individual grower. This is the practical way to show the growers that it is profitable to dealers to become members of the Vegetable Growers' Association.

As regards purchasing seeds, Mr. Delworth pointed out that it would not be satisfactory

for the members to club together to purchase their seeds from any one house. Most growers have certain lines of seeds which they buy from certain firms each year, and it is difficult to get them to change and buy seeds from another seedsman. The gardeners were advised never to purchase cheap seeds. The only safe way is to buy the best seeds and those which are recommended. Then if the crop is a failure something should be done to make the firm who supplied the seeds make up the loss, unless the fault lies with the grower. Occasionally seeds are bought which are not true to name and instances are known when seed purchased as beet seed turned out to be mangels. The members of the association should unite to see that an example is made of such instances.

Regarding the crop reports which it has been decided to have published during the summer, Mr. Delworth pointed out that those who grow onions extensively would have saved considerable money last fall if they had known the exact condition of the crop in the different parts of the province. Many growers disposed of their crop at 85 cents because they believed there was a heavy crop throughout Ontario. Such was not the case, and as a consequence prices have soared to \$1.15. Other crops cannot be held over as can onions, but the fact that a few crops can be held over is sufficient to warrant the growers in pressing for regular reports from all sections to be circulated to the members of the association. Mr. Delworth suggested that these reports be tabulated and sent out monthly through THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST, and by circular letter every two weeks.

More Experiments Needed

Ed. THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST:

In looking over the February number of THE HORTICULTURIST, I notice on page 38, that a gentleman from Hamilton asks a question regarding the production of vegetables in glass houses, and is replied to by Mr. Macoun of Ottawa. The reply is, as you will note, somewhat vague as to results. The matter of expense appears to be against their general production.

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57 BRANCHES THROUGHOUT THE DOMINION

Mention The Canadian Horticulturist when writing.