

THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST.

VOL. XXII.

1899.

No. 10



FRUIT AT THE INDUSTRIAL.

THE Industrial Fair is about one week too early for a fruit exhibit to be at its best, for while it has the advantage of taking in plums and peaches, it shows our best apples and grapes at a great disadvantage. The best Rogers grapes, for example, have no color, and the finest winter apples, such as Spy and King, are still very green.

The change in the tables to raised shelves instead of flat is very helpful to a display and breaks the monotony of the fruit exhibit; but the shelves should be nine inches wide instead of twelve, and four set of them instead of three, so that there would be no waste of space. The risers also are at least an inch too high.

On the whole, the fruit exhibit never showed to such advantage; thanks to our President, who is chairman of that department.

Our experimental exhibit is beginning to be of real use to fruit growers, and will be more so every year, as the new varieties come into bearing.

This year our apple specialist, W. H. Dempsey, Trenton, shows 140 varieties, labelled in alphabetical order.

Of the older commercial varieties, his Alexander, Stark, Ben Davis, Fall-water and Kentish Fillbasket were exceptionally fine, the last two, Fall-water (though a showy variety) never pays, because not productive enough; and Fillbasket drops too early to be a paying summer variety. His Primates were exceptionally fine, so large and highly colored. They hang from July to October, and no variety of its season is a greater favorite for eating.

Among the newer varieties shown by Mr Dempsey we notice:

Golden White, not a white apple, but striped, large in size, a Russian fall apple, very desirable for its hardiness, as well as good appearance.

Rochelle, another large apple, red striped, very promising.

Winter Banana, a deep red streaked apple, of good size and much promise.