

sent another shipment, which was much more carefully managed, though not by any means perfectly managed, and the result was a portion of the fruit gave satisfactory return. No doubt, in the near future, when the arrangements are still better, when the chain of communication between Ontario—if we choose to undertake it—to Australia is more perfect, our people will be able to send certain kinds of fruit with profit to that far-off colony of our Empire. In the same way, I am satisfied that in the near future, if we can improve the arrangements between this and the Mother Country, we will find a better market in the Old Country for all the fruit we can export. There is an almost unlimited market in the Old Country, in this sense, that the fruits are here to-day cheap enough to be eaten by everybody, but are only eaten over there by the comparatively well-to-do. There are many people on the other side who would consume fruit in enormous quantities if they could get it a little cheaper, and if we could send it. If communication between this country and England was so perfected that we could send our fruit forward at less expense, and place it more cheaply and easier on the English market, the demand for it would be practically unlimited. I am glad to know that the fruit-growers of Nova Scotia and Ontario are prepared this season to send forward fruit experimentally to the Old Country, to see whether a market may not be opened there for a much larger quantity than we have hitherto sent, and also a market for other fruits than we have been in the habit of sending. In this Province, we have a difficult problem to deal with. We have part of the Province where fruits of a more delicate nature have not heretofore been grown. Railways are penetrating to all parts of the Province, and the result is that in these sections where fruit cannot be raised, it is imported from elsewhere easily and cheaply; but fruit which comes a long distance, I care not how good it was at the start or how carefully packed, is never like that which we can pick out of our own garden. We can pick that fruit just in the condition we want it and get it in the freshest condition on our tables, and therefore it is of the utmost consequence to everybody who has a country home and a little plot of land to try and raise his own fruit. In this the work of this Association will be of inestimable help. We have our reports, which contain not only the reports of this meeting, but also the reports and experiments of all the leading fruit-growers of the Province. We have the reports of the Experimental Farm at Ottawa, of the experiments there in a climate pretty similar to that of a large proportion of this Province, and, therefore, of great help to us. Under these circumstances, by joining the Society so as to get the reports, by sending to the Experimental Farm for its bulletins, you will be able to find out pretty nearly all you can about fruit-growing, without having to make the trials and experiments yourself.

But, while these things which you find in books and reports are accurate and carefully prepared, at the same time, they have to be applied to your own particular circumstance and conditions with sound common sense, or, otherwise you may fail, and then throw the whole thing up in disgust. Do not do that. Talk to your neighbours and others, who have a little experience, and find out whether the application of these things which you find in books and reports apply to your particular circumstances; if you have not made a little mistake. I wish to impress on you that, in applying these things to your own conditions, you must use your own common sense and judgment. Hard and fast rules