

Washington, D.C., presented a paper on the disease known as "Little Peach." This disease, he said, was closely allied to peach yellows, and was probably more common in Ontario than the yellows. The only remedy for it was to pull out the diseased trees and plant again. He emphasized the importance of regular inspection and prompt action in removing diseased trees. New trees may be planted where diseased ones have been removed, and will prove quite healthy.

In a discussion on hardy varieties of peaches, Colonel Brackett, of the Department of Pomology, Washington, D.C., described an Iowa seedling, called the Sawyer, which has come nearly true to type from seed for the past fifty years, and which is said to be one of the hardiest peaches in existence, having been grown successfully as far north as Southern Minnesota.

#### 95% OF SPRAYED APPLES FREE FROM WORMS.

L. Caesar, of the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, gave an account of the experiments which he had carried on in the orchard of Joseph Tweedle in controlling the codling moth. These experiments show that it is quite possible, by the use of arsenate of lead and lime-sulphur sprays, to grow fruit practically free of the codling moth. In the orchard in which his experiments had been conducted, ninety-five per cent. of the fruit, he said, was free of worms, while in an unsprayed orchard nearby, from ninety to one hundred per cent. of the fruit was wormy. The first spray for the codling moth should be applied as soon as the blossoms fall, and the "Friend" type of nozzle was mentioned as one of the best to drive the spray into the open calyx before the apples turned down. Dr. Fletcher, of West Virginia, said his experiments had proved that the best time for second spray was as nearly as possible nine weeks after the blossoms fall. Two thorough sprayings made at these times should be sufficient to control codling moth.

#### ENGLISH GOOSEBERRIES.

R. B. Whyte, Ottawa, exhibited a fine collection of English gooseberries, a number of them being his own seedlings. He explained that the requisites to the successful culture of English gooseberries were a heavy clay loam, retentive of moisture, partial shade as might be afforded by adjoining trees, mulching or irrigating to protect plants against the time of drouth, and thorough pruning, so as to form a somewhat open bush, which would allow of free circulation of air. Under such conditions, he claimed, he had never been troubled with mildews, which so commonly affect these varieties. The following were recommended as a few of the best of this type of gooseberry: Whitesmith, Keepsake, Wetherall, Victoria, and Crosby.

#### CO-OPERATION.

One whole session was devoted to discussion on co-operation and marketing. A. McNeill, Chief of the Fruit Division, Ottawa, outlined the progress that had been made along this line during the past few years. In the discussion which followed, Dr. S. W. Fletcher, of Virginia, referred to the progress that had been made in the adoption of neat, light packages in place of the cumbersome returnable crates of some years ago. The box package, he said, he considered the ideal for apples and pears, as being specially adapted to fancy trade, although the barrel will still be used for lower grades in the general market.

Robert Thompson, St. Catharines, spoke encouragingly of the success which had attended the shipments from their co-operative association to the Northwest markets this year. Better prices than ever have been realized for the fruit sent, and the Ontario growers are now getting a head on the Western market.

#### THE GRAPE INDUSTRY.

Murray Pettit, Winona, presented a paper dealing with the grape industry in Ontario, showing how it had increased during the last few years. At present there are about 14,500 acres of grapes under cultivation in Ontario, most of them being in the Niagara district. Mr. Pettit, as one of the Government experimenters, has tested over one hundred and fifty varieties of grapes, and recommended the following as the most profitable for the Niagara district:

- Black—Champion, Worden, Concord, Wilder.
- Red—Delaware, Lindley, Salem, Vergennes.
- White—Niagara and Diamond.

#### SEEING THE FRUIT FARMS.

One of the pleasing features of the conventions were the side trips through the fruit sections of the Niagara district. On Thursday afternoon a trip was made by trolley from Grimsby Park to Fruitland, and numerous stops made to examine the fruit orchards along the road. The following afternoon an excursion by means of automobiles was made through the eastern end of the peninsula, taking in the orchards along the road from St. Catharines to Niagara, and along the river road to Queenston. On Saturday the convention concluded, with an excursion to the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, where the visitors were shown through the orchards and grounds and vari-

ous departments of the College. In the evening most of them left for their various homes, satisfied that they had attended one of the most successful conventions in the history of the association, and had also seen in the Niagara district some of the finest orchards and fruit plantations to be seen on the continent.

#### A Good Shipping Raspberry.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

On page 1361, August 26th issue of your valuable paper, I read with much interest a letter from E. D. Smith, on "Shipping Perishable Fruits." Knowing Mr. Smith as I do, I value his opinions very highly, but there are a few things in his letter that I think will bear comment.

I agree with him that strawberries can be successfully shipped to Winnipeg, else how is it that we get berries in here in good condition from Maryland, the Carolinas, and even from Florida. If berries of the finer kinds are picked before too ripe, and shipped in air-cooled cars, rather than in iced cars, they should reach Winnipeg market in good order, and hold up well after reaching there.

Mr. Smith says the best berry he is acquainted with (as a shipper) is the Williams. Well, I imagine he has seen a great many varieties, but I would not grow Williams at all. That green tip makes it a poor seller, and it is a poor color at best. I much prefer Splendid, Sample, Ridgeway, Dunlap, and, in fact, several others.

He says he thinks the Cuthbert raspberry, or any variety of black raspberry, if picked dry, would stand to be shipped to Winnipeg, but he does not mention any other red variety. Now, sir, Mr. Smith and I drove together out to the Experimental Farm here one very hot Friday four years ago, and I got a mixed crate of raspberries there to test their shipping qualities. There were ten or twelve varieties in the crate, including ten baskets of Herberts, that wonderful berry that originated in this city. There were no Cuthberts, because there were none to be put in, this variety proving a total failure that year, and a very poor cropper in this district every year, owing to its being too tender.

Well, this crate sat in my buggy, in the broiling sun, with no protection except the crate cover, for over an hour. I then brought them into the city, where they remained in the livery office, with no provision for keeping them cool, till about 11 p. m., when I delivered them to the express company, addressed to Renfrew, where my family then lived. They were delivered at our house about 10 a. m., next day (Saturday), and put in the cellar, where they remained (except two baskets of Herberts which we used meantime) till Monday p. m. When brought out of the cellar (just an ordinary cellar, with no special provision for keeping them cool, and the weather extremely hot), one box of Brandywines was simply a rotten mess, and several others were a total loss; but the Herbert stood it best, there being not over a dozen berries, in the eight baskets, that were spoiled. These berries had not been picked specially, or on the green side, but were just the same as the others, yet they stood the three days of very hot weather, with no cooling, yet with practically no loss. Then, when we consider that, by all the official tests that have been made in Canada, Herbert more than doubled the yield of Cuthbert, with a larger and more attractive berry, of as good or better flavor, surely Herbert deserves mention, not only as the equal of Cuthbert in all respects, but as its superior in most points. The report from the Experimental Farm this year gives Herbert's yield from 12 plants, at one picking, as 17½ pounds of fruit. I may safely say that no other berry, I believe, ever yielded such a crop. Having originated in Ottawa, we people of Ottawa do not like to have this great berry slighted, when speaking of red raspberries, and trust you may spare space in your valuable paper for us to tell your readers that out of Ottawa there has come "a greater raspberry" than has been.

W. J. KERR.

Carleton Co., Ont.

#### Good Prices for Fruit.

A meeting of the Executive of the Co-operative Fruit-growers of Ontario was held at the Ontario Fruit Exhibit, Toronto Exhibition Grounds, Sept. 7th. The attendance was good, and included representatives from the following associations: St. Catharines, Norfolk, Burford, Georgetown, Forest, Oshawa, Trenton, Cobourg, Wicklow, Georgian Bay, etc.

After a brief discussion as to the incorporation of the Central Association, the question of prices for this year's crop was gone into thoroughly. The main purpose for which the Central Association was organized is to make it possible for local associations to get first hand information regarding crop conditions, standing of buyers, and especially the prices that should be obtained.

Reports from the various districts indicate a better crop than last year in the Georgian Bay

and Georgetown sections, and of good quality, but, on the whole, the crop is light to moderate. Prices will be somewhat stiff. The reputation of previous years' pack increases the demand for the output of the associations.

At the close of the meeting, buyers from Toronto, Manchester, Winnipeg, Brandon and other places were present to meet managers.

## THE FARM BULLETIN

### Western Canada and Her Harvest Problems.

Western Canada is no longer the "wild and woolly" West, but the West upon which many eyes are centered. Upon the grain there garnered much of the prosperity of the country depends. Indeed, the whole world would be affected by a killing frost before harvest. So close has the supply of food become, that a shortage makes a greater difference than it did a few years since, which is a thing in itself full of significance. Well do I remember, some thirty years ago, when some young men, then working on my father's farm, planned to go to this same Western country, of which so little was known then, that these adventurous spirits who proposed to go there seemed to us as if they were going out of life altogether—certainly out of civilization as we knew it. And yet these young men went but to the threshold of this great West—Portage la Prairie—then a vast prairie, roamed by the deer and the buffalo, now converted into vast grain fields. What a difference in travelling to that country thirty years ago, and now. By boats, canoe, by horse-team and ox-team, and on foot, the early pioneers journeyed there. Now we take the cars, the palatial Harmonic steamer, and again are whirled by the steam engine right through this country, to which so many made such slow and tedious journey before. To the many pioneers of the West, as well as the pioneers of other countries, we owe much. Surely those who have braved the danger and hardship, borne the great solitude of the early struggles of converting prairie and plain into productive fields, have, now that they have conquered, a right to enjoy to the fullest the reward of their endeavor; and to a certain extent they are. But there are many who toil not with their hands, working their heads to rob these tillers of the soil of much of the profit that should be theirs. At least, I could come to no other conclusion, after studying the situation.

The papers have of late been full of glowing crop reports, some, indeed, claiming a "bumper" crop. After a month of travelling in the West, stopping with friends two or three days in a place, I could find no grounds for such bright stories. Grain there is, acres of it, so like to impress the visitor; but many of these same acres have had grain on last year. The point is, what is the yield to be? That is, before threshing, just a matter of guesswork, and interested parties are likely to guess pretty high, and others not so interested may think they are friends of the farmers by giving glowing accounts of the prospective yield. Save the farmers from such friends! A price of five or ten cents per bushel on all this grain means a good many dollars; it represents so much more profit to the farmer. It also represents profit to the grain-dealers, and they are undoubtedly whiling away their time, whilst the grain is being garnered, spreading glowing reports, and the farmer finds, upon getting his grain threshed, that the market has declined 10 cents or so per bushel. He is told there is such a large yield. He knows his yield has not been large; but, of course, it is a big country, and he may be led to believe that other parts have a larger yield. There are certainly many acres in grain, and the total amount will not be small, but no place have I seen what the farmers themselves call a good crop.

On visiting my friends in different localities in the West, they invariably had some apology to make for their district, such as, "We had a very late spring"—that was universal. Some places there was no rain from seeding to harvest, or rain came too late; too hot just as grain was maturing. The result seems about the same everywhere. Heads are not well filled at the tip, and contain much small grain, and the yield is not expected to be so good. A great deal of the grain was not over 18 inches to 2 feet high, and we have not heard of a twine shortage. After a while, we shall learn by the same papers that the yield was not so large as expected, when the speculators get the grain in the elevators.

The system of marketing grain lends itself to the wiles of the speculator. Much of the grain is marketed in two or three weeks. There are many systems of threshing. Here is one: A threshing gang takes the grain right out of the stacks and threshes it for 7 to 8 cents per bushel, the owners having only to draw away the grain. This they do by helping one another. When five or six miles from the elevator, it takes six or seven teams to draw the wheat. The wheat is elevated by the threshing machine, and runs into