

Changes Advocated

Some amendments to the Dominion Fruit Marks Act are being advocated by the Fruit Growers' Association of British Columbia. The matter may be taken up during the approaching session of the Federal Parliament.

Several hundred circulars have been issued to fruit growers, asking them for expressions of opinion upon several points involved. These are three in number: first, the standard of color and size for each variety and each grade of apple; second, the size of fruit boxes; third, the association wishes that the trade names "Fancy," "No. 1," and "No. 2" be discontinued, and the designations, "Extra Fancy," "Fancy," and "Choice," which are now in use in the United States, be substituted therefor.

The British Columbia fruit growers desire to have the American apple box adopted as the standard. This box, they contend, is better than the Canadian in many respects. It holds more fruit and its shape is more convenient for handling and loading into cars.

Death of Mr. Shepherd

The death took place suddenly recently of Mr. R. W. Shepherd, of Montreal. Mr. Shepherd was a past president of the Province of Quebec Fruit Growers' Society, and one of the best known fruit growers in Canada. He represented Quebec at the two Dominion Fruit Conferences as well as at one held many years ago.

Mr. Shepherd's apple orchards at Comoy, Quebec, were known all over Canada and Great Britain. He made a specialty of packing and shipping Fameuse apples. A special illustrated article by him on the packing of Fameuse apples appeared in the September issue of *The Canadian Horticulturist*. His death will prove a loss to the fruit interests of Canada, and particularly to those of the Province of Quebec.

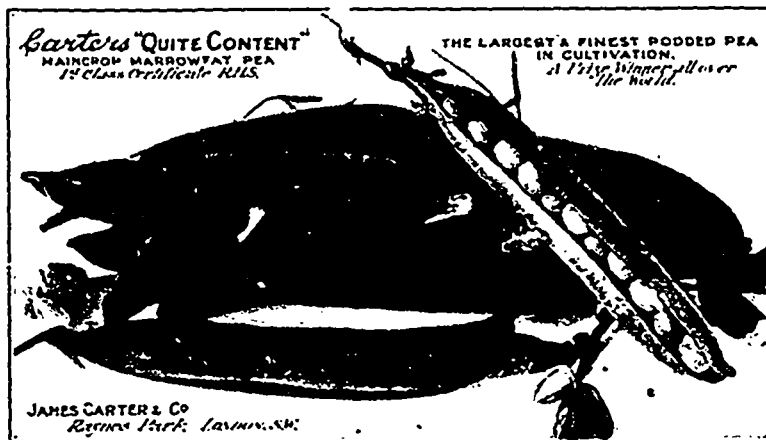
Niagara District

At a meeting of the Niagara Peninsula Fruit Growers' Association, held at St. Catharines in December, the association inaugurated a campaign, which in the words of President Robert Thompson, has as its object "better prices for the grower, lower prices to the consumers, and an improved condition of the fruit when it reaches the consumer." A committee of representative men from various sections of the district was appointed to look into the question of better and more efficient packing of the increasing quantities of fruit which are being produced, to secure a better condition of what is being done in other sections in this regard, and to report to a subsequent meeting to be called at as early a date as possible.

During the year 1912 abnormal quantities of fruit were wasted. The growers' prices went down to a low figure, and the complaints were heard from the consumers of the high cost of living, with fruit included. It was estimated at the meeting by J. H. Broderick that the fruit-growers of the Niagara district pay \$10,000 worth to the Commission men of Toronto during the fruit season.

The growers were told by Prof. I. W. Brown, of the Guelph Agricultural College, that they make the mistake of shipping fruit to big centres of population exclusively. It is a difficult matter to get first-class fruit in the smaller cities of Ontario and Canada gener-

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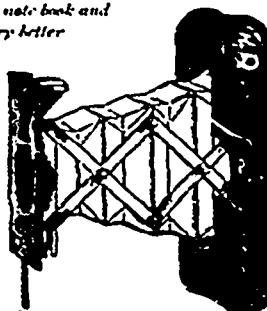
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