

in the following June. As to pack, almost all packs show for themselves. But I must call your attention to this pack, relative to the size of the apple and the size of the box. Most any person can pack a straight three or four tier pack, but to place this size apple into your legalized box in an attractive manner is a work of art. You will observe the end apples are low enough to prevent bruising, while the center ones form a true curve to receive the spring of the cover.

As to uniformity, these are as near uniform as the human eye can detect.

As to blemishes, why, sirs, there are no blemishes; they are just as perfect at the bottom as they are at the top, and just as perfect in the middle as either top or bottom.

Now, honorable judges, I desire to impress upon your minds what other people think of these apples. What does the grower think of them? He knows that they are his best money-maker. One of my neighbors sold this season \$1,800 worth of Newton apples from one acre of ground. The tree bears regularly in districts adapted to its growth, and its fruit sells readily. The wholesaler loves them because he runs no chance of them falling down either in price or keeping quality. The retailer buys them because his customers are constantly boring him to death if he does not keep them for sale.

The customer buys them because he knows that they possess all those qualities desired by the most delicate taste.

Now, honorable judges, there is the reason why this box possesses superiority here to-night, which may be a little hard for you to understand. Yet, if you will search the records of all the large commission houses on both continents, and ascertain whence comes the highest-priced apples, said price being based upon their extreme perfection, their high flavor and unrivalled keeping quality, you will receive the one universal answer, "From Hood River, Oregon."

There is something in our soil, in our climate, and in our system of placing them upon the market, that adds value to every box of apples, and this box is one of them.

The Yellow Newton is very juicy and tender, and is mellow, yet crisp. It has a sub-acid flavor. It is, sour, yet sweet, and it is at home in the kitchen and in the parlor. The majority of people regard it as the most delicious apple found in any market. Her Majesty Queen Victoria, for many years before her death, gave it first honors on her table, and I must not forget to tell you that the little valley that produced this box of apples furnished a large portion of those apples. Your humble servant has for many years past assisted in satisfying His Majesty King Edward with this same variety of apples. The best markets of the world are always asking for Yellow Newtons, without fear of successful contradiction; they lead all others in the export trade. And why all this? Simply because the consumers of the old as well as the new world have long since learned its many good qualities.

Honorable judges, I am not defending a new and untried variety of apples. It has been on the market for several generations, and the child has learned to list its fine qualities with the same enthusiasm as his grandfather. All I ask is to give to my client that which it deserves. If you are still in doubt as to which is the best apple, not only for to-night, but for the world, go with me into all the markets, and there you will be convinced. Every market in Germany, France and England, and the whole of Europe, are to-day paying more for the Yellow Newton apples than for any other apples. In conclusion, I want you to remember that, wherever you find an Englishman, either in England, Canada or America, ask him what apple he likes best of all, and he will tell you, unless he is a competitor here to-night, that it is the Yellow Newton. And now, honorable judges, on behalf of my client, we are not desiring to beg any honors. We stand on our own merits. If defeated in this contest, new history will be made for my Yellow Newton client. We know that your verdict will be the voice of your conscience, and we feel satisfied to rest our case with you.

WHAT ARE WE DOING TO HELP THE FRUIT-GROWING INDUSTRY?

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

The past ten years, has been a period in which radical changes have taken place in the different branches of agriculture. Haphazard methods have given place to systematized effort, and, as a result, in many instances, a better and more uniform product is now put on the market; consequently, markets have extended, and the increased demand for such articles has created a livelier interest among these engaged in the profession of agriculture.

In commercial fruit-growing these changes have been none the less noticeable. Scarcely ten years ago the prevalent idea was that one had but to get a piece of suitable land, plant the trees, give them a moderate amount of cultivation, and usually a limited amount of pruning, and that was all that was necessary to insure success. True, in many instances, good crops of good fruit were sometimes grown, in certain seasons, under certain conditions a bountiful harvest resulted, and in

such seasons the net price obtained for our fruit left very little margin of profit, as the market centers became flooded with fruit of a very inferior size and quality, and the law of supply and demand regulated the price.

Year by year fungous and insect pests came, the accepted opinion that "Spraying doesn't pay" was changed to "Does spraying pay?" and later, "Can I afford not to spray?" With the advent of the San Jose scale the orchardist saw that his business was in great peril; many were positive they could not successfully combat this insect, and nothing but ruin was in store for them; but was it overproduction which made the markets unprofitable?

Many of us can remember the first attempts at extending the markets, by the earlier experimental shipments of fruits, other than winter apples, to the Old Country and also to the Northwest. On the whole, the attempt was not a financial success, but to some the dark cloud had a silver lining—some small parts of the different shipments sold at a fair figure. Many attempts were made by individual growers to get others to co-operate, and better the existing conditions, but the time was not yet. Year by year the scale infestations extended, neglected orchards died one by one, young trees replaced them in some instances, but these succumbed in time. Spraying in some instances proved partly effective, and a few of the orchards survived, and to many appeared the dawn of a brighter era. These who did not believe in treating their trees came one by one to doubt the wisdom of their belief; some attempted to treat their trees by finding out from those who had been successful in keeping the scale in check, and from this starting point we find the question of better methods of cultivation, the best methods of pruning the trees, co-operation in buying spraying materials, spraying machinery, central boiling stations for the cheaper and better preparation of spraying mixtures; co-operation in the buying of fruit packages, fertilizers, etc.; co-operation in the selling of fruit in car lots, f.o.b.; all of which tended towards the production of a better grade of fruit and the better marketing of the product. Still further, we have the establishment of central packing-houses, where a uniform pack can be put up in a much more attractive style at a greatly reduced cost, and each year we are shipping successfully fruit, chiefly grapes, as far as Vancouver, and cars of mixed fruits to Edmonton, Winnipeg, and all large centers in the West; and instead of hearing the cry of overproduction, we are turning our attention to the question of what varieties we can grow which are best suited to the markets; what varieties are best suited to supply the great canning industry, which is partially attempting to supply the demands of the Greater Canada.

These changed conditions have materially added to the cost of caring for an orchard. It is necessary to tear out or graft all unprofitable trees and varieties, and to make the most out of every tree it is essential that the soil be in proper condition as to drainage; that it, the soil, contain sufficient plant food; that the foliage be kept healthy, and that wood growth be not permitted at the expense of fruiting power; the sterility of some varieties of fruit, and the advantage of having certain varieties to pollinize other varieties—these are only a very few of the problems that confront us.

Then, we ask, what is the Ontario Government doing to help commercial fruit-growing? It is true the Department has taken a lively interest in the scale question, and has supplied a helping hand, and, as a reward for their labors, we have a suitable and cheap remedy, which, if properly applied, will keep the scale under control. It has also fostered the co-operative movement. The Department is spending annually considerable sums of money for variety testing of fruits and vegetables. It has sent out numerous varieties of fruits all over the Province, and will, in time, have a few reports as to how certain varieties succeed in certain localities; but what is the Department doing to help those whose trees were winter-killed? Many of them suspect that death has resulted from insect or fungous disease, or some other cause. Were there certain varieties more subject to winter-killing than others? If so, what were they? Were the trees which were winter-killed situated in a lower spot in an undrained orchard? Was there a greater loss by winter-killing in the part of the orchard which had clean cultivation up to the close of the growing season? Was the wood on the trees which were winter-killed properly ripened before frost? Would a cover crop planted in midsummer on the orchard and allowed to grow a good top before frost aid in maturing the wood, and also hold the snow, as well as assisting in itself to lessen the effect of root injury by frost? Were the trees which were affected by insect and fungous diseases during the previous growing season more subject to winter-killing. These are questions which come up annually in all parts of this Province, and if the Horticultural Department of our Government institutions were in closer touch with the fruit-growing industry, these questions should have been settled long ago. We do not expect them to be settled by any exhaustive experiments at an experimental farm, but by the summing up of existing conditions where such things happen.

To my mind, we are too prone to condemn a certain locality as ill adapted to fruit-growing on account of its geographical situation, whereas if we had the same cultural conditions in another district, we might not have been much more successful. Like our American cousin who when asked, "Why don't you grow fruit on your farm?" replied, "The soil is not adapted for

it." "But how is it that your neighbor not two miles away grows fruit?" "Well, yes, he does." "Well, why can't you; did you ever try it?" "Well, yes, I did—twice." "What is the matter that the trees did not grow; did they start?" "Oh, yes, they started, but they died off gradually soon after." "What killed them?" "Well, I don't know; I suppose the sheep chewing off the outside bark helped." Lincoln Co., Ont. GEO. A. ROBERTSON.

THE FARM BULLETIN.

USE OUR WANT AND FOR SALE ADVERTISING COLUMNS.

Judging by some of the correspondence that reaches our desk, certain of our readers do not believe that we always mean just what we say. Every few days we receive questions from people who have forgotten to sign their names, or who are not on our subscription list, or who enclose a stamp for reply by letter, whereas it is expressly stated in our standing announcement, which appears every week on the second page of reading matter, that when in certain cases urgent replies by mail are required, \$1.00 must be enclosed. If replies to all kinds of enquiries were attempted by mail, the burden would swamp us, ordinary business letters reaching the thousand every week. Answers are published at very considerable outlay, on the theory that they will benefit readers generally.

Then another form of thoughtless imposition is in asking us to serve as a free-advertising medium. Some time since a letter was published, asking where hickory saplings could be secured. In an editorial note appended, we invited replies through our "Want and For Sale" advertising columns, where, at the three-cents-a-word rate, a small advertisement could have been inserted for 40 or 50 cents. It was also stated that confidential replies would not be forwarded. Notwithstanding this explicit announcement, we have already received several notes from people who could furnish such saplings, but none of them saw fit to act on our suggestion. The letters have, consequently, been discarded. For the convenience of our readers, and as a means of making the paper more useful, we maintain this special advertising column. The rates are ridiculously low, and the least anyone could do towards getting in touch with prospective purchasers would be to enclose a small announcement along with the price calculated, according to the rule at the head of the columns. We must stand by our rules. A business that made rules only to break them would soon go to the wall. We are doing the best we can for our readers, and only ask that they be fair with us.

ANOTHER FARMER ON THE HOG QUESTION.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In looking over the issue of December 26th, I came across the statement of J. C. T.'s views on the hog question. I certainly think his views are all right, from a farmer's standpoint. I am a farmer, and have raised yearly for the past five or six years from 40 to 50 hogs, but I don't think I would have raised as many if I had followed the Experimental Farm's way of raising them. I have not the backing they have down there. I have to raise and feed them as best I can in my own quiet way. I don't doubt that if I had the run of the Government storehouse and dairy I could have raised them with more profit, as "money makes the mare go." I have not had skim milk at my disposal to feed my young pigs; they have had to take things as they come, just as my other stock has. I could not afford to keep a man around specially to look after hogs. I certainly would have given my small hogs away last summer if I had known that the prices that are being paid now were to be, as I consider that we are losing money every day we feed them. If I could keep my hogs for a year longer, as in the case of cattle, horses and sheep, it would throw a different light on the subject; but we cannot, we have to sell them just when they are from 180 to 250 lbs. in weight or we cannot sell them at all, and if the prices are low we have to stand it—not the Government. The packers have the bull by the nose; they can lead us which way they like; they well know when the glut is going to come. Of course, the Experimental Farm does some good work, but in the hog question I think they are somewhat misleading, to the farmer's point of view. You know, Mr. Editor, that the past year or two has been a hard time for the farmers to obtain help, and the stock has had to rough it, as well as the farmer and farm—the farmer has had to paddle his own canoe. We farmers cannot raise hogs and care for them as we should and like to; therefore, without extra good prices we are better never to have anything to do with them. We certainly are running a big risk to buy grain at present prices, and the majority of farmers around here have only two-thirds of the grain that they have had other years, and you know, Mr. Editor, that hogs take the clear thing every time. You cannot feed them on straw or hay as you can the other stock, and