

tion but more is needed. Here is an opportunity to do something for our florists.

A prominent florist in Hamilton recently told *THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST* that he, for one, would be glad to attend such a course. Many others feel likewise. The time is ripe for a course in floriculture and it should be started next winter.

The annual meetings of the horticultural societies of Ontario will be held this year in November instead of next January. The reason for changing the date of the time of holding the meetings is that they may be held at the season of the year when greater interest is taken in horticultural matters and when the members of the societies are still enthusiastic over the season's work. The earlier date will enable the societies, also, to appoint some of their new officers as delegates to attend the annual meeting of the Ontario Horticultural Association that will be held in Toronto at the time of the Ontario Horticultural Exhibition, where methods of increasing the usefulness of their societies will be discussed. Every horticultural society in the province should appoint one or more delegates to attend this convention.

There is an element of unfairness in the preparation of the prize list for the fruit exhibits at the Canadian National Exhibition. Growers of fruit in Western Ontario always have an advantage over those of the East and North. Their fruit matures much earlier and, as a consequence, they can place it on the show tables more advanced in color and size. Some scheme for overcoming this condition of affairs should be incorporated in the prize list so as to give exhibitors in all parts of the province an equal chance. A step in this direction would be the granting of prizes for county exhibits such as is done at the Ontario Horticultural Exhibition, held in Toronto, every November.

The horticultural exhibition to be held at Kentville, N. S., Oct. 7-9, promises to be the greatest event of its kind ever held in the maritime provinces. Every person interested is enthusiastic. Preparations are being made on an elaborate scale for a show that will be of great value and interest to exhibitors and to the public. All friends of horticulture in the east should do their part, by exhibiting, by attending, or by both, in making the exhibition a credit to Nova Scotia.

British Columbia Fruit

The older fruit districts of Canada are gradually learning that British Columbia is becoming a big factor in our fruit industry. In an article that appeared in the *Toronto News*, Mr. E. J. McIntyre has this to say about the qualities of British Columbia fruit:

"The fanciest of fancy apples, it must be admitted, come from British Columbia. Spitzenbergs, Kings, Spys and Baldwins acquire in that favored province a wealth of size and glorious coloring that is nothing short of marvelous. The plumage of the golden pheasant is scarcely more gorgeous. One can easily imagine them taking the lead in British markets against all competition once an export trade is developed. In flavor and quality they do not quite reach our standard, but they are certainly not inferior in these regards to the apples of Oregon and California."

We have received from Messrs. Ellwanger & Barry of Rochester, N. Y., an excellent little catalogue of select peonies, phloxes, irises and other plants for fall planting.

The Irrigation Convention

J. Sanger Fox, Vernon, British Columbia

AS recorded in the September issue of *THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST*, the second annual convention of The Western Canada Irrigation Association was held in Vernon, B. C., in August. On Monday, the 10th, two sessions were held, and on Tuesday, three, while on Wednesday the day was spent in driving to points of interest to irrigationists in the neighborhood, finishing up with a banquet in the evening. Thursday, Friday and Saturday were spent visiting points of interest down the Okanagan Lake and partook rather more of a recreative character. Besides this a number of delegates stopped over at Armstrong, a few miles north of Vernon, and were driven over some of Armstrong's timber limits with an idea of seeing something of the practical side of the forestry question in connection with irrigation. The ladies of Armstrong treated them to a most tasty lunch.

In the presidential address, at the opening session, the Hon. F. J. Fulton made a very important utterance with respect to the Government's attitude on the question of the amendment of the present Water Clauses Consolidation Act of British Columbia, and said that with the help of Mr. J. S. Dennis of Calgary, the well-known irrigation expert, he was engaged in drafting legislation which would meet the needs of present day affairs. He stated that contrary to the usual precedent, he intended to get this printed and distributed broadcast so that all interested in the subject would have every possible opportunity of seeing what was proposed, and of offering suggestions in the way of amendment or rejection, if its provisions did not meet with their approval.

Speaking of Mr. Fulton's reference to himself as assisting in the drafting of an amendment to the present law in British Columbia, Mr. Dennis said that the Hon. Commissioner for Lands and Works was not in any way bound by any views which he (Mr. Dennis) might express, but he was merely assisting him with such suggestions as in his experience in irrigation matters in the prairie provinces he was able to give him.

Briefly outlining his idea of what was wanting and what was required to make the Water Clauses Consolidation Act a thoroughly comprehensive one, the speaker stated that the first thing that would have to go was the "Miners' Inch." This would have to be replaced by a recognized unit, probably the acre-foot, or the cubic foot per second. Referring to the hopeless state of over-recording on practically all the streams in British Columbia, he thought the next thing to be done was a thorough and drastic "house-cleaning" process. All the streams would require to be surveyed, the amount of water flowing in their channels at low water, high water and flood, be ascertained, the amount and extent and title of each record gone into most thoroughly, and—herein lay the drastic measure—all those records not being used beneficially after having been given a thorough chance to "make good," cancelled altogether. The remaining ones, he thought, could be so adjusted as to meet within some fairly reasonable bounds the capacity of water in the streams. If there were not enough water at low water to satisfy all the water records, those which were unmet would have to conserve the flood water for use when water ran short during the dry season.

In connection with the latter point, legislation would also have to be provided encouraging private parties to build reservoirs and protecting them in the conveying of water thus preserved to their own lands.

Another point that would have to be defined would be the duty of water; i.e., in applying for a water license, the applicant would have to state for what land the water would be required.

He thought that a law with these basic features would be successful, and would make it impossible for streams to be recorded more than the amount of water that they contained, and would ensure to every record the amount of water specified therein. Mr. Dennis also mentioned the matter of the preservation of the water sheds, and stated emphatically that it was of the utmost importance in the regulation of the flow in mountain streams that the water sheds should be kept well wooded, and not denuded of their timber and vegetation.

NOTE.—Many other valuable addresses and discussions took place. A number of important resolutions were passed. These and the discussion they provoked will be mentioned in the next issue of *THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST*.—Editor.

Export Apple Trade

Editor, *THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST*: In some quarters there has been apparently an effort to belittle the brokerage firms in Great Britain and to urge upon growers the desirability of selling their apples f.o.b. and, as I represent what I believe is the oldest firm of receivers of American apples in Great Britain, Messrs. Woodall & Co., who received apples in 1847 from the Underhill orchard at Croton Point, New York, I think it only right I should say something by way of counteracting it.

It is quite true that there are numerous undesirable receivers in Great Britain; at the same time, the reputation of the good ones should not suffer for the actions of the bad. There are six firms comprising the Liverpool Fruit Auction who sell goods publicly and above board, and while a few smaller firms, who cannot get on this Auction and who have not capital enough to carry on an extensive trade, are forever sending out misleading, venomous and malicious statements against what they term a combine, born only of envy and jealousy, the fact remains that more than 90 per cent. of the independent consignments of apples go to this same Auction, shipped by men who have been in Liverpool many times and are thoroughly conversant with the workings there. In spite of this slander, which has gone on in some quarters for years, the Auction still flourishes and is acknowledged to be the best medium for the distribution of fruit. The sales are public and above board. Any buyer of good standing can be a member by application. What some term a "closed room" is not such and this term is misleading, the regulation being merely to keep out a lot of loafing draymen or people who would put in bids and are unable to pay for the fruit or who have previously abused the credit granted by the Auction, (you will understand that the brokers guarantee the accounts of purchasers and it is absolutely necessary to make as few bad debts as possible and sell only where the money is sure), and who would use up the time of