

We have all kinds of minerals; asbestos can only be found in Quebec. Our forests and streams are the sportsman's paradise. We have the leading city in Canada, Montreal, with a population of nearly 500,000. It is a great consumer of fruit; two hundred carloads of Cali-

fornia fruit is an average per year, the freight and duty being about \$1,200 a car. About 150,000 bunches of bananas per year are used in Montreal. If tropical fruits can be shipped at such a cost to Montreal, why shouldn't the fruit grown at L'Islet find a ready market for

an increased production of their valuable plums and cherries? Instead of being a frozen waste, with ice palaces for our amusement, as some of our American friends to the south believe, we have a land of great possibilities and resources.

A New Fruit Market Wanted in Toronto

THE Scott St. Fruit Market in Toronto is a market only in name.

It is nothing more than a freight shed that has been turned over for the handling of fruits and vegetables. It is not a fit place in which to have fruit, as it is not large enough nor light enough. From all sources—from dealers, buyers and growers—complaints are heard. There is not enough room to handle fruit on ordinary days, and the congestion is unimaginable, unless seen, on rush days. It is not fair to the fruit grower nor to the man who buys his fruit. The loss to the fruit grower lies in the fact that the buyer has no chance to examine his fruit. To learn something about the state of affairs at the markets and to secure the opinions of some leading commission men, a re-

There is scarcely need for asking questions on the subject. You have simply to look and you will see at once that the building is overcrowded. Most of the time during the fruit season we cannot move, the baskets are piled so high. Baskets of fruit should not be piled more than five high (that is ten baskets in the pile)."

Belknap & Son said that their business demands at least three times as much room as they have at the present. "We should have a proper market. This building is nothing more than a shed. There is not enough room, and the light is bad. The large firms are obliged to fill the passageways and the smaller ones are shut off from buyers." Mr. Jas. Bamford said that there should be twice as much floor space.

said White & Co. "We cannot handle stuff properly, as there is no place to display it. To properly display the fruit handled by our firm, we could use space equal to half the space of this building. From early morning till night we have fruit coming in, with no space to put it in. We are compelled to sell the stuff already inside before any more can be brought in. Sometimes we have to carry fruit back to the cars or put it outside on the platform so that we may have room enough to do business, and the fruit in the hot sun is injured. Much of our fruit cannot be seen unless the piles in front of it are climbed over."

The situation was referred to by Mr. D. Spence somewhat as follows: "This building is certainly not a proper place in which to handle fruit. Many mornings we have not enough room to walk around. The building is not large enough nor properly laid out. The city of Toronto should build a proper market, and it would give a revenue. The fruit men would be glad to pay to the city the same as they are now paying the Grand Trunk Railway for space in the market. They are paying half a cent for each eleven-quart basket, one-quarter of a cent for each six-quart basket, one cent for each twenty-four quart crate, and two cents each for barrels and sacks. If the city got this money, it could pay for a market in a short time. Every day between 30,000 and 40,000 packages pass through the market. The fruit trade is increasing rapidly, but the market space is not keeping pace in proportion. Sometimes stuff that comes in during the night will not be sold until two o'clock the next afternoon because of lack of space for displaying it. Occasionally we have to give stuff away to make room for later arrivals. I do not think that the wholesalers should go to the St. Lawrence Market. We should have a wholesale market away from the retail, and in connection with it there should be cold storage apartments." In speaking of transportation facilities, Mr. Spence said that the Dominion Express Company was the only company that was trying to do the right thing. They endeavor to handle fruit



A Scene at the Toronto Fruit Market on an Ordinary Day.

On rush days the congestion is even more pronounced. There is not room to handle fruit properly for sale or display.

representative of THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST recently secured the following information:

When Mr. Stronach, Sr., of Stronach & Sons, was approached, he said:

He suggested that a few electric lights should be placed in the building to improve matters until a new building is secured.

"We have not half enough room,"