

FARMING

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FARMING

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TOPICS FOR THE WEEK.

A Merry Christmas to You.

FARMING greets its many friends and patrons at this season of the year and sincerely hopes that they may be abundantly blessed with the good things which come on such festive occasions. "Tis more blessed to give than to receive" should be our motto, and in gladdening the hearts of others our own hearts will be gladdened. If this be our motto, every Christmas festivity will be as a bright gem in our lives, that will make life more joyous as the years go by. Not even an editor can be truly happy without some of these bright oases looming up amid the weary drudgery of his sanctum. So kind friends, be joyous and happy and greet those around you with a smile, for in so doing you shall bring rays of sunshine into many a gloomy heart. A Merry, Merry Christmas be thine.

RENEW! RENEW!

Christmas comes but once a year, and so does the renewal of your paper. The one will give you as much pleasure as the other, and we can assure you that to renew your subscription by sending us two new subscribers for FARMING will be one of the best Christmas boxes you can make us. Just try it this holiday season, and see how easy it will be for you to give yourself a Christmas box by sending us new subscribers. Examine your address label, and if your subscription has expired make arrangements to renew at once. Look up the splendid values we are giving in our clubbing lists. Our premium lists contain some splendid holiday gifts.

Our Clubbing List.

We are pleased indeed to be able to offer the following low clubbing rates for FARMING with other publications.

	Regular price.	With FARMING.
Canadian Magazine	\$2.50	\$2.50
Toronto Weekly	1.00	1.50
Toronto Weekly Mail and Empire	1.00	1.40
Farm and Forest	1.00	1.40
Montreal Daily Witness	1.00	1.40
Toronto Morning World	1.00	1.50
Montreal Week 7 Witness	1.00	1.50
Family Herald and Weekly Star	1.00	1.50
London Weekly Free Press	1.00	1.75
London Weekly Advertiser	1.00	1.40
Ottawa Semi-Weekly Free Press	1.00	1.60

These are all particularly low offers, but we would make special mention of our offer to send FARMING and the Canadian Magazine for one year for the low price of two dollars and fifty cents. This is Canada's greatest magazine, and we should like to see it in the home of every farm

er. It contains what is best in Canadian literature and thought, and no young Canadian should be without it. Try it for one year.

We have also made special arrangements with the publishers of the *Canadian Magazine* to offer that splendid production for four new subscribers for FARMING, at \$1 per annum. This offer is made specially for the readers of FARMING. Four new subscribers can be got very easily if you only make the effort.

Increased Government Assistance to the Fruit Trade.

More extended efforts are to be made next year towards developing the export trade in tender fruits. The Dominion Department of Agriculture will spare no pains nor reasonable expense to get the fruit on the English market in good condition. At the fruit growers' meeting Prof. Robertson said that he had been authorized by the Minister of Agriculture to state that refrigerator cars would be provided by the Government to Montreal for all fruit sent in carload lots, provided that the Department were notified in time that such shipments were to be made. A competent person would be stationed at Montreal to arrange for the transshipment of fruit from the cars to the vessels, and an agent in England provided who would assist in disposing of the fruit to the very best advantage. The Government will also erect or secure a cold storage warehouse at Ottawa, in order to experiment still further along the line of packing and preparing fruit for shipment, in order to find out the exact requirements. The knowledge obtained from the past season's work, though valuable, is not sufficiently conclusive to be thoroughly relied upon.

With the increased assistance on the part of the Government, the fruit-grower will be in a position to make much larger shipments than were made last season. With larger and more regular shipments, more attention will be directed to the trade, and more consumers reached in a shorter space of time.

Experimental Fruit Shipments.

A large share of the time of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association, held last week, was given up to considering the returns from the experimental shipments of fruit sent to England, and in discussing plans for future shipments. The report of the secretary, Mr. S. Woolverton, who acted as agent for the Dominion Government in selecting, packing and sending forward the experimental shipments, showed that ten different shipments were made during the fruit season. The returns from these shipments, though showing a loss in some cases, were, on the whole, very satisfactory, and the experience gathered from the season's operations will be of inestimable value in the future. There was considerable loss on the first two or three shipments, but the later experiments returned a good profit in nearly every case. Some varieties of Canadian pears, such as the Crawfords and Bartletts, seem to meet the needs of the trade in every particular. The returns from these netted from 72 cents to \$2.92 per bushel case. The former prices were realized upon the earlier shipments when the fruit did not arrive in good condition. The prices realized for tomatoes netted from 30 cents to \$1.70 per bushel case, for peaches from 54 cents to \$3.60 per bushel case, and grapes from 30 cents to \$2.65 per bushel case. The large margin between these figures is accounted for by some of the shipments arriving in very poor condition.

The substance of the report is that our Canadian pears suit the tastes of the British consumer as well as the French varieties, and if sent over in proper condition will meet a ready market; that tomatoes have succeeded very well, and if a smaller sized variety is sent forward a good business can be done in this line; that grapes have been almost a complete failure; that peaches afford great possibilities for both loss and profit, and that early apples will bring the top prices if only the right varieties are sent over.

One of the chief causes of failure in some shipments was that the temperature at the cold storage warehouse at Grimsby and on board the vessels was kept too high, ranging from 40 to 45 degrees. The temperature during some of the later shipments was as low as 35 degrees, and much better results were obtained. Another cause of failure was the bad ventilation, both in the manner of packing and on board the vessels, and in neglecting to cool the fruit before packing.

In addition to the experimental shipments sent over under the direction of the Government from Grimsby, Mr. Geo. E. Fisher, of Burlington, sent over a number of shipments of small fruit on his own account with very good results. The first shipments were made of pears. These, after lying in Montreal for a day in the sun, reached Liverpool in good condition and sold well. Mr. Fisher's experiments go to prove that cooling the fruit to a low temperature before packing is absolutely necessary. As a proof of this, ripe Bartlett pears, that were too ripe even to send to Toronto, had been thoroughly cooled, packed, and sent to England. The returns from these were satisfactory. Two different lots of cooled and uncooled fruit had been sent over, the former sold for 115. and the latter 95., the fruit being the same in each case.

Mr. Fisher's experience, coupled with that gained from the shipments sent over under Government auspices, is very valuable indeed. It should stimulate further efforts in developing our export trade in Canadian tender fruits. The requisites for developing this trade are a well-selected quality of fruit, a system by which all fruit can be properly cooled before being packed; a complete cold storage system that will admit of the fruit being kept at not more than 35 degrees from the time it is packed till it reaches the British market, and arrangements made for selling the fruit to the best advantage when landed. With these requirements provided, the future of the Canadian fruit trade is assured.

New Stockyards Proposed for Toronto.

Stockmen who have been in the habit of coming to Toronto with stock will be pleased to know that there is a move being made towards improving the stockyard accommodation here. In many ways the present stockyards are inadequate, and not sufficiently up to date to meet the growing needs of the live stock trade of the province. What is wanted are stockyards conveniently located, and so arranged as to give the best possible facilities for unloading and handling stock of all kinds. This is absolutely necessary if Toronto expects to hold her own in connection with the Canadian live stock trade.

The latest development in the situation is the forming of a union stockyards company for Toronto. This company is well under way, and the organizer, Mr. J. H. Durie, recently sent a letter to the mayor outlining a scheme by which the company will build and operate stockyards in the city. It is proposed to locate the new stockyards