

THE TRIAL SHIPMENTS OF FRUIT TO WINNIPEG

PROF. J. B. REYNOLDS, ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, GUELPH.

THE object of these experimental shipments of fruit to Winnipeg was to find out whether or not tender fruits from Ontario could be placed in good condition on the Winnipeg market by freight carriage. Incidentally it was the intention to inquire into the whole matter of transportation, prices, and selection and packing of fruit, as well as the best construction of car for refrigeration.

In each car were carried apples, Bartlett pears, grapes, plums, peaches and tomatoes. The idea seemed to prevail among most of the fruit growers that in order to carry these fruits to Winnipeg safely they must be picked green and hard. The result does not justify this belief. A considerable proportion of the peaches were packed hard, green and undersized. A fair quantity of them, however, were, when packed, well

sized, well colored, and firm, in such a condition as No. 1 Crawford peaches are packed for use within a few days. These last were by far the most desirable when opened up at Winnipeg. In fact, after seven days had elapsed between loading and unloading, after a journey of 1,500 miles, and various shuntings at Allandale, North Bay, Fort William and Winnipeg, Crawford peaches were placed on the market from our shipment in better condition than any I have seen displayed in the shops in Guelph.

This is true not only of a chance few of the peaches shipped, but of all that had not been picked too green. A box of the primest of these peaches found its way into the hands of an acquaintance of mine, and on Monday, three days after the sale and 11 days after picking, I inquired as to the condition of the fruit. The reply was that a

few only of the peaches were then mellow enough for immediate use, and that the greater part of the box could be kept until the end of that week, that is, until 15 or 16 days after picking. Grapes shipped well, some of the Moore's Early only being off the stem. The varieties of plums were Reine Claude, Yellow Egg, Columbia, and



An 80 Year Old Apple Packer at Work.

One of the growers of many years standing, is Mr. R. D. Veale, of Mount Brydges, Middlesex County, who may be seen in this illustration standing with two baskets in his hands. Although over 80 years of age, Mr. Veale still attends to the packing and shipping of not less than 1,000 and 1,500 barrels of apples each year. The apples from Mr. Veale's orchard are shipped to London, England, by the Thompson steamers. The Baldwin apples have given Mr. Veale the best satisfaction with the Golden Russet next. There are 40 barrels of Baldwins grown in this section of Ontario to any other variety.