

Mr. G. E. McIntosh, of Forest, Ont., told of having seen eighteen carloads of peaches in Detroit at one time while across the river in Windsor there were none. In Detroit they sold for \$1.30 a bushel and in Windsor for \$2.25 for three baskets. Some growers who had paid twenty-five cents a bushel duty to get their fruit into Detroit later paid forty cents a bushel duty to get the fruit back into Windsor, and saved money by doing so.

SALE PRICE OF APPLES

Mr. Elmer Lick, of Oshawa, said that he had received reliable information the day before that some Duchess apples had been sold a few days previously in Brandon for \$1.75 a bushel. This, he considered, meant an unfair profit for the retailer in Brandon.

A western dealer who was present, challenged this conclusion. He pointed out that Duchess apples were selling in Ontario for \$2.25 a barrel, freight came to \$1.10 a barrel, jobbers' charge to 50 cents; total charge, \$3.85. Apples at \$1.75 a bushel equalled about \$4.85 a barrel. This left an apparent profit of about \$1 a barrel. Out of this, however, the retailer would have to pay his operating expenses, which would leave him a considerably smaller profit than appeared.

Mr. Pritchard, of Paris, said that he had been a retailer for several years and was now a retailer. He had had all the experience he wanted as a retailer. He would rather hoe potatoes all the year around. One difficulty was that growers do not know what it costs them to produce a barrel of apples on an average, say, for five years.

R. M. Winslow, of British Columbia, said that they had investigated the cost of production in British Columbia, and had placed it at between 75 cents and 80 cents a packed box.

Mr. J. G. H. Pattison, of Winona, said that the present methods of gathering crop information are very inaccurate, not even the Government reports being as accurate as they should be. He thought that trained men should be engaged to go through the chief fruit districts to gain this information.

Prof. T. G. Bunting, Macdonald College, Que., agreed with Senator Smith that the local dealers are kept properly posted as to the prices of fruit, but he thought that some means should be devised of getting that information to the public. The public gains the impression from their local dealers that the crop is small and prices high, and stop buying. If they knew the real conditions they would insist on obtaining a supply at reasonable prices. He thought it would be a good idea if accurate information could be published in the daily papers for the guidance of the public.

Prof. J. W. Crow, O.A.C., Guelph, pointed out that the cost of production has nothing to do with the selling price of the fruit. We require a better system of market reporting and of crop reporting. It had been suggested that the Federal Government should endeavor to gather this information.

Much of the criticism aimed against the retailer, he said, was unfair. This was because we do not know what it costs him to conduct his business. There are very few retailers that are getting wealthy. We know that many fail. One of the reasons for the high cost of doing

The Apple: Our National Dish

What do you say to a concerted effort being made by the fruit interests of Canada to have "The Apple" made the recognized "National Dish" of Canada? The Englishman is noted for his "Roast Beef," the Irishman for his love of "Potatoes," the Scotchman for his partiality to "Oatmeal" and the United Stateser for his "Pork and Beans." Canadians are as yet without a national dish.

The consumption of apples might be greatly increased were they to be advertised in the "1001" ways they would be, both at home and abroad, were they to become known as the national fruit of Canada. They are now produced in all parts of Canada, even the prairies, and are thus national in habits of growth. This suggestion was first made in The Canadian Horticulturist two years ago by Mrs. Edwin Penrt, of Freeman, Ont. Let us hear from our readers as to what they think of it.

business is the cost of duplication. All the retailers have to maintain delivery rigs, which drive back and forth over the same ground, entailing much unnecessary expense. Growers should also consider the factor of advertising. Grocers handle most of the leading breakfast foods with little or no profit. This is because they are so well advertised the public demands them and the grocer has to carry them in stock. Fruit growers may be able to obtain a suggestion from this condition.

Mr. H. B. Cowan, of The Canadian Horticulturist, pointed out that there was another factor to be considered. In towns and cities land values are very high. The owners of land often demand enormous rentals from the people who want to use it. A commission dealer with a large warehouse might have to pay a rental of \$4,000 or \$5,000 a year. In addition, he would have to pay high wages to his employees to enable them to pay their rentals. Thus such a dealer would have to sell 4,000 to 5,000 barrels of apples and make a so-called clear profit of one dollar a barrel on each before he would even be able to pay his rent, to say nothing of the wages of his employees or a salary for himself. Too large a proportion of this money went to the landowners, who merely owned the land and charged monopoly prices for its use without having any material risks

or working as do the fruit growers and retailers.

In closing the discussion, Dominion Fruit Commissioner D. Johnson promised that the Government would investigate the points raised during the discussion. Later resolutions were adopted endorsing Mr. Thompson's suggestions regarding trial shipments of fruit and trade commissioners.

Orchard Notes

Orchard trees may be mulched this month. Place the straw or manure out about as far as the branches go, and leave at least three inches bare at the base of the tree, so mice will not work on the tree. Put on about four inches thick.

Throw a few shovelfuls of earth against the young apple and plum trees before the ground freezes. This will help to keep mice away from the trunks.

Save a few cuttings of grapes for planting next year. Cut the wood into pieces having two to three buds, and place in sand or sawdust in a cellar until spring, when they may be planted out in nursery rows.

Grapes in northern sections should be pruned and laid on the ground ready to cover with earth for the winter.

Cut and burn all dead or dying trees on the place, as they will spread disease or insects to other trees.

Lay down raspberries and blackberries and cover them with enough dirt to hold them close to the ground all winter. This should be done when there is no frost in the canes.

Barrel Packing

It is advisable for young packers to take off the head of a barrel of their tailing occasionally and note the number of apples which have been touched by the head at the pressed end. If it should appear that a number of apples have not been touched by the head, and others are severely pressed, then they may rest assured that they have made a poor job of the tail. The aim should be to have equal pressure upon every apple in the last row.

It is not of material importance whether the stem end or the blow end is placed up. It injures the apple somewhat less to have the blow end up, but the apples can be placed in a better position by having the stem end up. All stems showing either on the head or tail should be removed with a stemmer. Do not attempt this work with a knife. This operation is frequently neglected and long stems are pressed into the flesh of the apple, giving entrance to disease germs.

Heads cut from heavy paper or light pulp board are very desirable on both