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time to make a dead set at all there was in sight. Of Indian corn, of which hundreds of thousands of cases were put up, there is so little now left that it is predicted the last will be gone before next year's crop comes into market. Tomatoes, while hardly so scarce as corn, are in a very limited supply. Peas, though constituting but a small pack as compared with the foregoing two items, have sold well. There is a marked improvement in the quality of Canadian canned peas within a very few years. They are more delicate and of better color as a rule, indicating that the packers have learned by experience at what stage of growth to pull them, and that they have been making chemical experiments as to the retention of color.

The rise in price of corn and tomatoes has been striking. Some months ago corn could be had freely at sixty-five cents per case, to-day it is worth \$1.05 and firm. Tomatoes have advanced from less than seventy cents to around eighty-five and ninety cents. Peas, while firm, have not shown such a rise. Fruits are in rather better relative supply at present. Peaches, it is true, are high in price and very firm, while strawberries, raspberries and cherries cannot be called plentiful.

Very remarkable progress has been made in the business of canning fruits and vegetables among us. While it is true that the development of fruit canning generally has not kept pace with the putting up of peas, corn and tomatoes, yet in the preserving of apples there has been a very marked increase. There is a big demand for canned apples in the Northwest, and even in the older Provinces. A considerable quantity is also sold in England. Said Mr. Wellington Boulter last week, who is known to be one of the first authorities on the subject of canned goods: "One and a half million of dollars was distributed amongst the farmers of the Bay of Quinte during the past season for fruit, corn, peas, tomatoes, etc., taken by the canning factories." If this be true of the district named—which covers several of the Midland counties of Ontario, what sum of money will represent the disbursements of the Province for fruit and vegetables, fresh or canned? What of the Hamilton and Dundas territory; what of the famed Niagara district; what of Essex, Middlesex, Oxford—a dozen counties? The extent and value of our fruit producing districts is none too well known.

It is probable that the astonishing demand from the Klondike for canned vegetables and fruit within the past two years has interfered with export of these products to Europe. That demand absorbed great quantities. One dealer sent in 1896 to Dawson City six carloads—the first shipment to go into that district, and this year the same gentleman says he has sent no fewer than fifteen carloads to Nelson, Rossland, Kaslo and Grand Forks, B.C. Evidently, therefore, the naming towns are a large and sure market for canned vegetables and fruit. There is, Mr. Boulter tells us, a prospect for the opening up of a very large trade with England, and not only with England but with Germany. He adds that he has put up fourteen tons of fruit pulp this year, and one ton is about to be sent to England, by way of introduction. This fruit pulp is presumably for use by jam-makers. — Monetary Times.

The Late Optical Co., of Peterborough, Ont., are installing electric power in their factory and have contracted with the United Electric Co. for the necessary apparatus.

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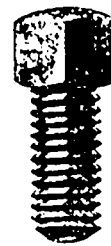
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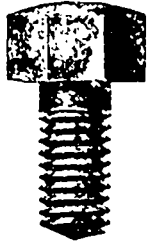
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