

100 lbs. from Toronto, \$3.25 ; tomatoes 73 cents per basket ; peaches, plums, pears and gooseberries 73 cents per basket. In other words, the charges are about as much as the original cost. Crab apples, which can be purchased for about \$2 per barrel in Toronto, are charged \$5.50 per bbl. for carriage on arrival. If these goods were sent by ordinary freight it would take about an average of fully twelve days to reach the Portage or Winnipeg.

It cannot be expected that much change will be made in rates west until competition is fully established with the O. P. R. Such competition as there now is gives an advantage to our American friends, who are enabled by lower rates to place fruit in Winnipeg for less money than we can. I am well aware that both our railway systems deny that such a state of affairs exist, and they quote the inter-State law to clinch this contention. But the fact remains all the same, and fruit-growers and shippers of Ontario have had thus far to "grin and bear it." If these railway and steamship companies would encourage fruit-growers and shippers by providing more perfect accommodation, better handling and storing of goods and guaranteed bills of lading to all points at a lower average freight rate, we would have no trouble in opening out new markets, which would necessitate the planting of much larger areas to orchard.

It is time to do something, if possible, to prevent many mixed brands of apples and badly packed as well as worthless seedlings and others from passing forward into British and other markets as the produce of Canada. Our good name suffers in this way, and unless a stop is put to it, fruit shippers and growers as well, will be looked upon as sharpers. Buyers in the markets are becoming suspicious already, and those who handle only choice brands feel that the injustice is affecting them in prices by gaining a generally bad name for our country. It has been suggested that an inspector, whose duty it would be to examine and mark every barrel upon its merits, would remedy the evil. It would also be necessary to hold the packers responsible for their work, as well as the grower for the condition of the fruit in the orchard, for that condition has much to do with its carrying and keeping qualities. A neglected orchard cannot produce fruit of as good points in flavor, growth, shipping and keeping qualities as an orchard that is well cared for. The price, therefore, to the grower should be subject to these conditions. Such an inspector would also correct the present very loose system of naming. I trust this matter will receive special attention at an early day in our discussions, so that some improvement may be made, and our good name as a fruit producing country be honestly preserved.

The present system of judging fruits at our exhibitions, if indeed I should dignify it as a system at all, requires a radical change. I believe we should, as an association, frame a code of rules for judging upon points. Many an exhibitor at our leading exhibitions thinks that judges take an unwarrantable liberty when they taste often varieties that are easily distinguished at sight ; but I ask is there not naturally often an important difference between two specimens of the same kind that have been grown under different circumstances, and is it not a most important part of a judge's duty to award the prize to the best ? I am a thorough believer in the flavor test of fruits. If we are to occupy the place of educators in this matter we must not pass over the fruit tables too hurriedly, judging by the eye instead of by points of merit. In other departments at our exhibitions advancement is being made. Why not in this ? In every case the points awarded by judges should be placed upon the plate or collection of fruit so that exhibitors may profit.

In the near future our association should follow the good example set by the American Pomological Society in revising our entire fruit lists for the purpose of simplifying nomenclature.

Experiments have been tried by many for the past two years for the purpose of destroying the codling moth. Various remedies have been employed, but up to the present I have not been convinced that any of them has accomplished the desired end so well as Paris green. Although some scientific men denounce this remedy as a fraud or useless, those who have given it a practical, persistent trial have over and over reported strongly in its favor. I am fully satisfied after several years of careful experiment and observations that the curculio has been actually destroyed by the persistent use of