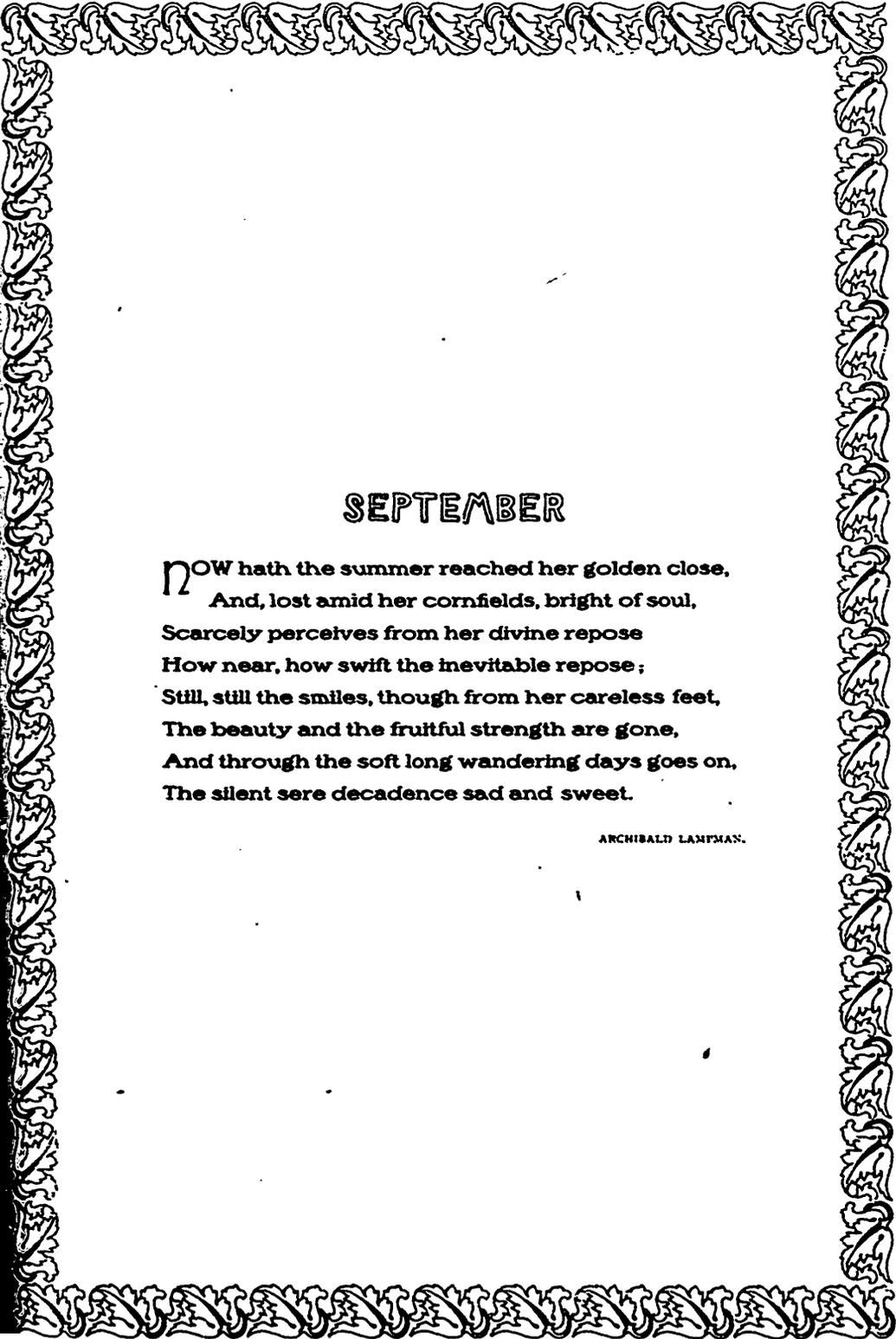


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SEPTEMBER

NOW hath the summer reached her golden close,
And, lost amid her cornfields, bright of soul,
Scarcely perceives from her divine repose
How near, how swift the inevitable repose ;
Still, still the smiles, though from her careless feet,
The beauty and the fruitful strength are gone,
And through the soft long wandering days goes on,
The silent sere decadence sad and sweet.

ARCHIBALD LANFMAN.

The Canadian Horticulturist

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THE IRRESPONSIBLE BUYER

ONE of the greatest evils from which the Canadian fruit industry suffers is the irresponsible buyer. Every year Canadian fruit growers are defrauded out of tens of thousands of dollars by sharpers who deliberately and carefully lay their plans to fleece such fruit growers as will trust them with the disposal of their crops. As the season is now approaching when these buyers will begin their operations, a description of their methods may serve as a warning to trusting growers.

The buyers referred to are usually well supplied with money by old country firms through a well known and apparently reliable commission dealer on this side, who often is at the back of the whole scheme. In most cases this dealer never places more than one buyer in each district the same season. The first year one of these buyers operates in a locality he proceeds to make himself "hail fellow well met" with as many growers as possible. A pretense is made by him of buying a large quantity of apples. For those he buys he generally pays cash, thus establishing his reputation with the growers as a man of means and integrity. Were his operations to be investigated, however, it would generally be found that his total purchases did not exceed 4,000 or 5,000 barrels. In some counties these tactics are continued a second year, but this seldom occurs.

As a general rule a buyer of this kind the

second year quietly sets to work and contracts for as many barrels of apples as he can secure, 20,000 to 30,000 often being purchased. Operations are conducted so quietly few of the growers have any inkling of the extent of his purchases. If some of the growers are sharp and shrewd the buyer, when necessary, keeps them quiet by paying them 50 to 70 per cent. of the value of their crops and thus avoids suspicion. Whenever possible, however, the growers are put off with one excuse or another, until after their crops have been shipped.

A favorite excuse of the buyer for the delay in the making of payments is that he has just made a heavy payment for a large shipment, or that he is waiting for a remittance from the head office. Once he has secured the fruit and shipped it out of the neighborhood his purpose is accomplished. Later he goes back to the growers with tales of losses, claiming the fruit was injured in transit, that the market was glutted when the fruit arrived, etc. Finally he offers to settle at 20 to 50 cents on the dollar.

Not until then do the growers realize how they have been duped, and unfortunately for them they have no redress. For the first time they awaken to the fact that the buyer, in spite of his great pretenses, has no property or stake in the section by means of which they can obtain any recompense for the value of their crops. What makes it easier for these buyers to conduct their

game, is the fact that growers often do not like to have it known that they were defrauded. Rather than make a fuss and have it noised about that they realized but little for their crops, they accept the buyer's offer of settlement and but little is heard of the matter. The next year these buyers move off into a new district and begin the same game over again. This game is carried on to such an extent that there are few important fruit sections in Canada where there are not some growers who have been defrauded more or less extensively in this way. Within the past few weeks a buyer has been settling with growers in the Niagara district in the manner described. A case which will probably be remembered by many is that of the Ontario buyer who two years ago defrauded fruit growers in the Annapolis valley, Nova Scotia, out of \$30,000 to \$40,000 worth of fruit. These growers took their case to law but were unable to obtain any satisfaction.

THE REMEDIES.

There are several ways in which the operations of these buyers can be prevented.

Good Results from Caustic Soda

M. G. BRUNER, OLINDA, ONT., LOCAL SAN
JOSE SCALE INSPECTOR.

WHILE at Kingsville not long ago I examined an apple orchard affected by the scale, one half of which had been sprayed with caustic soda and the other portion with the lime and sulphur wash. I did not find a live scale on any of the limbs or twigs, although on one tree five or six apples were found on the end of a limb that had a few scale on them.

A number of growers in this section who have used the caustic soda wash speak very highly of it, and believe that it is almost a certain cure for the scale, as it cleans the trees of everything. The trees in the orchard referred to had only been given one

If growers would cooperate in the packing and marketing of their fruit, danger of loss in this way could be avoided. A cooperative growers' association generally has large quantities of fruit to dispose of, which enables it to deal direct with responsible firms instead of through local buyers. A cooperative association is able to demand cash for every sale made.

Where there are no cooperative associations, growers should only sell to well known local buyers who reside and are well known in the section. One of the great troubles here, however, is the fact that local growers are often unable to offer as high a price as the sharpers, as they know they will have to pay full value for every barrel of apples they purchase. It is due to the fact that the irresponsible buyer generally offers considerably the best price that so many growers are led to deal with him and are finally victimized. It is generally far better for growers to accept a lower price from a man whom they know thoroughly, than to deal with a person of whom they know little or nothing.

treatment, as they were not badly affected. Growers who have tried both the caustic soda and the lime and sulphur wash consider the caustic soda to be the cheapest and that it gives equally as good results.

Fruit growers who have followed the custom of keeping their orchards in sod, and who decide to cultivate them in future, should be careful not to break up the sod in the autumn, especially in those parts of the country where the winters are severe. The roots which have not been disturbed, it may be for years, will be near the surface, and are likely to be injured, and perhaps destroyed altogether by hard frost. It is better to plow in the spring.—(W. T. Macdon, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

FRUIT GROWERS WHO HAVE CO-OPERATED

FRUIT growers living in the vicinity of Forest, in Lambton county, have organized and formed the Forest Fruit Growers' and Forwarding Association. The officers are: D. Johnson, president; D. Simmons, vice-president; A. Lawrie, secretary-treasurer; H. J. Pettypiece, M. P. P.; D. Campbell, H. Hodgson, R. Macken, D. Dunham and R. E. Scott, directors.

It is the intention of the association to build up a business in Northern Ontario, Manitoba and the Northwest Territories. With this object it has been decided to send the secretary, Mr. A. Lawrie, who is an experienced business man, as well as a fruit grower, to visit the leading cities in these districts to solicit orders.

The curling rink in Forest has been rented and will be used as a central packing house for the purpose of grading and packing the fruit of the members. Early in July the association sent out a circular to prospective buyers announcing that it would fill all orders promptly and with high class fruit.

Meetings are held every two weeks dur-

ing the fruit season, and the members are determined to build up a reputation as honest growers and shippers. All fall apples and pears will be shipped in iced refrigerator cars to the Northwest, and while it is expected that the greater part of the winter apples will also be disposed of there the association has prepared to receive orders from Ontario dealers.



Gathering the Crop in a Western Ontario Orchard.

Apple pickers and packers at work in the orchard of Mr. James Johnson, of Forest, Ont., are here shown. This orchard is on the shore of Lake Huron and produced last year 1800 barrels of apples and 3000 baskets of plums. There are 30 acres under apples and 15 under plums. For 10 years Mr. Johnson has been a firm believer in spraying and the cultivation of orchards. Owing to an over-production of fruit last season, Mr. Johnson put up large quantities of peaches, plums and pears in glass, handsomely labelled, and also considerable quantities of fruit pulp, which during the slack winter season were made into jam and jellies. This season a cooper shop has been built in the orchard, which has enabled Mr. Johnson to manufacture his own barrels at a little more than 30 cents each. In the illustration Mr. Johnson may be seen standing at the extreme left of the picture, while his son, Mr. D. Johnson, president of the Forest Fruit Growers' and Forwarding Association, is on the extreme right.

An interesting description of how the association came to be formed has been furnished The Horticulturist by the president, Mr. D. Johnson. The section where our members live, writes Mr. Johnson, is one of the best and largest fruit growing districts in Ontario. It is situated along the lake shore of the northern part of the county of

Lambton. Thousands of barrels of the choicest apples, as well as many thousand baskets of plums and pears are shipped away every year.

Our fruit growers, however, have for some time felt the need of organization in buying their supplies and handling the output of their orchards. The apple barrel question forced itself upon us last season by the fact that we were forced to pay 50 cents, and in some cases 55 cents, for a poor and very unsatisfactory barrel.

After this experience a number of the leading fruit growers determined to solve the apple barrel question, and had almost perfected arrangements for the establishment of a stave, hoop and heading mill in Forest, to make their supplies out of timber reserved on some of their own farms, when the head of a wealthy syndicate arrived in Forest and completely bought the fruit growers' miller over. The company gave as its reason for this action the excuse that if the undertaking was a success small mills would spring up all over the province and greatly interfere with its business.

Rather than fight a wealthy firm, which was apparently determined not only to oppose them but corner the market, the fruit growers went out in search of barrel material, which they were able to buy early in January at prices that will give them a high class barrel at a little less than 30 cents each



MR. A. LAWRIE.

The secretary-treasurer of the Forest Fruit Growers' and Forwarding Association, Mr. A. Lawrie is here shown. As announced in this issue, Mr. Lawrie will this fall represent the association before the trade in the Northwest, where he expects to secure orders for the fruit packed and shipped by the association. He is a practical fruit grower and has had considerable business experience, so is well qualified for the work he has undertaken.

in their orchards. Shortly after this Mr. A. E. Sherrington, of Walkerton, delivered two very instructive lectures on the cooperative packing and shipping of fruit, which resulted in the formation of our association. As a result of the success already met with, prospects for the future success of our enterprise seem bright.

THE SAN JOSE SCALE ACT

DURING August, The Horticulturist wrote to a number of leading fruit growers asking their views in regard to the prevalence of the San Jose Scale in Ontario and enquiring if they would like to see any further action taken to prevent its spread. A number of interesting replies have been received and will be published from time to time in The Horticulturist. The following communication was sent in by Mr. J. Fred.

Smith, of Glanford, provincial San Jose Scale inspector:

It is difficult to see in what way the provisions we now have for controlling the San Jose scale could be improved. The responsibility is now where it should be with the people. If the sentiment of a locality is not strong enough to force the council to appoint an inspector, or if they appoint an inspector and that sentiment is not strong

enough to back him up in enforcing the act, then no other power need undertake to carry out the act. You must have the people with you or you can never make a law a success.

I do not think the scale has spread very much in the last two years. The period during which it spread the most was during 1900 and 1901, when nothing was being done to hold it in check. In 1899 the destruction of the trees was discontinued and everything was then for a year or two in an experimental stage. The people were not then alive to the danger and did very little spraying. Many were skeptical about the scale ever killing a tree. This is not to be wondered at, for during the years that the trees were destroyed everything on which a scale could be found was destroyed and there was no evidence of what the scale would do if left to itself.

The next two years soon convinced those who had scale in their neighborhood of its destructiveness, and then there came a clamor for some remedy, and I do not believe to-day, that in any section where the scale has not practically got everything, that the people are not doing everything in their power to hold it in check. In my neighborhood there are, of course, some careless growers who will not do their work well and do just as little as possible, but still the law is clear and strong, and any person can put the act in force, so that I do not see how the act can be improved.

It has been said that the scale is slowly but surely spreading. This is no doubt true to a certain extent, but it must be remembered that during three years of inaction the scale was spreading fast, and it always spreads farther than any one would expect or look for. It is only when it has had time to develop that growers become aware of its presence, and they then speak of it as if it had only recently arrived, when such is not the case. I have known instances of scale being in an orchard for two or three years, and for some reason or other it did not increase at all, but all at once it became epidemic and spread and multiplied with great rapidity.

The amendment made in 1902 to the San Jose Scale Act was, I think, a great improvement. I have never heard any fault found with the act since the amendment. The only portion of the act which does not seem clear to some municipal councils is sub-section 3 of the amendment, section 4 of the act. Some councils have taken the ground that the department undertakes in that sub-section to pay half of the black knot and yellows inspector's time, but this is not the intention of the clauses. The meaning is that the same person may act in both capacities, that is, could be black knot, yellows and San Jose scale inspector. It might be made clear that it was not intended to pay half the cost of his time for hunting the black knot and yellows.

THE CO-OPERATIVE PACKING OF FRUIT

"THE more I look into this matter of cooperation in the packing of fruit by growers," said Alex. McNeill, chief of the fruit division, a few days ago to *The Horticulturist*, "the more I realize how many benefits the system has. A large number of varieties of apples depend for their keeping qualities on the time at which they are picked. For this reason there is no one

or two periods during the growing season at which it is possible to pick an orchard.

"The professional packer cannot afford to send a gang to an orchard more than twice, and often only once during a season. The result is he is often forced to gather a considerable quantity of fruit that is either over or under ripe. This means that every season a considerable quantity of fruit is

shipped out of Ontario in an improper condition and more or less damage results to the reputation of our Canadian apples.

"The remedy is for the grower to do his own picking and packing. In this way it is possible for him to gather the fruit when it is ready for picking, and if it is stored or shipped immediately much better prices can be realized. The Colvert is an excellent example of an apple that is practically valueless when picked at the wrong time. It is too soft to stand any carelessness in handling or packing, and unless picked in the proper condition and shipped at once, it cannot be sold to advantage. For this reason many individual growers are unable to realize satisfactory prices for their Colverts and other varieties of the same nature.

"This is where the value of cooperation comes in. One of the great sources of profit of the Walkerton Cooperative Association has been the selling of small lots of apples that in former years were allowed to go to waste. By cooperation the Walkerton growers have been able to secure sufficient quantities of these perishable varieties

of fruit at one time to enable them to make frequent shipments during the ripening season. In this way they have been able to obtain as high prices for this tender fruit as for their best winter stock.

"Where growers are unable to dispose of their fruit in this way an effort should be made to see the apples are stored in a cool place as quickly as possible after picking. They should not be left in the orchard exposed to the inclemency of the weather. At Walkerton, when the secretary of the cooperative association receives an order for fruit, the members of the association are notified that a shipment will be made at a certain date and are asked to deliver their fruit which is ready for shipment at the shipping point at a certain time. This enables the association to ship the tender varieties of fruit at the proper time, and many of the members now find these varieties among their best paying apples. By cooperating in this way growers will find the Colvert apples a profitable variety because it is hardy and a fairly regular bearer, while the fruit is of good quality."

BOXES OR BARRELS FOR APPLES

REGARDING the packing of apples, in boxes or barrels, I have always used barrels and intend using them this year if they are to be had. Boxes that were used in this section last year by shippers were not made strong enough, the boards being too thin. When pressure was applied the box would bulge out and the fruit would still be slack. In this way the fruit would no doubt land in England in a crushed condition, even if each apple were wrapped in paper.—(W. M. Ellis, Whitby, Ont.)

Last year I shipped my fruit in boxes, made of beech timber, having the lengths sawed and planed to suit. I nailed one end solid, and had square bands to fit the outside of the other end, and they were ready to fill.

This year I will plane and saw my own, in my own barn, as I have water power. With this kind of a box and large apples, it was easy to get the right fullness at the end of box. The box was placed on end, pressed down with my knees and nailed. When the Fruit Marks Act came into force such packing had to be marked XX. I can sell all I can pack and get more than I can through the packing house. I pack in the orchard.—(J. I. Graham, Grey Co., Ont.)

I am going to pack my apples in barrels this season, as I think them the best packages for exporting, unless in sectional boxes, and they are too expensive. Only the very choicest fruit should be packed in boxes. As barrels are getting expensive, and fruit

plentiful, I think only first-class apples should be exported, as poor fruit only tends to glut the market. I think the barrel situation this year will be as serious as last season. I have my barrels all contracted for. A lot of boxes I saw packed and shipped last season gave very unsatisfactory results.—(A. B. Loomis, Orland, Ont.)

I purpose exporting a few thousand barrels of apples again this season. Packers will require to exercise more care this year in the selection and packing of their fruit

than usual. First, because the quality of the fruit, according to present prospects, will be inferior to that of last year, as there is a greater development of fungus growth, spots already showing distinctly on the apples. Second, owing to the large crop of English and continental apples, it will naturally follow that fruit of the best quality only will meet with ready sale on the British markets. I purpose using the barrel package, having never used the box.—(Subscriber, Ont.)

ONE OF CANADA'S LEADING NURSERIES

THERE are some half dozen nurseries in Canada, which are noted owing to the immense volume of their business. One of these is the nurseries of Brown Brothers Company, in Welland county, whose local postoffice is named after the

firm, being called Brown's Nurseries. The amount of mail handled through this post-office may well be taken as some indication of the extensive business done by this firm. It is the largest rural postoffice in Canada, and stands fourth in the Lincoln and Nia-



The Business Corner of the Brown Bros.' Company Nurseries.

The correspondence and office work of this firm, described on this page, is so great it was recently found necessary to erect these handsome offices. The president of the company, Mr. Edward C. Morris, may be seen in the illustration leaning against the side of the steps, holding his hat in his left hand. (From a photograph taken specially for *The Horticulturist*.)

gara districts for the amount of mail matter handled annually. This gives some idea of the business done by correspondence.

An editorial representative of *The Horticulturist*, who visited these nurseries recently, was much impressed by what he saw. The handsome residences of Mr. Edward C. Morris, president of the company, and Mr. David Z. Morris, secretary-treasurer, are both located on the home nursery, so that the Messrs. Morris are in touch with all the details of their immense business and look after it exclusively. The extensive and well equipped offices are also situated on the nurseries. This building is 60 x 30 feet, two stories high, the interior being finished in hard wood. It is well lighted from all sides. As the company has not yet reached its limit, everything in the offices is laid out for the future development, which its marked success in recent years leads it to expect. "We packed three times as much stock in 1904 as we did in 1900," said Mr. E. C. Morris. "Some 14 years ago," continued Mr. Morris, "we started in the nursery business here on a comparatively small scale, and to-day there is no firm in Canada shipping more nursery stock in a year."

One advantage of having the main office at the central nurseries lies in the fact that all mail orders can be given prompt and careful attention, and the true condition of the stock available for sale can readily be ascertained. Orders by long distance telephone are also frequently received. So many hands are employed it has been found necessary to erect two boarding houses on the home nursery, one for those engaged in the offices and the other for nursery hands. Both are large, commodious, and fitted with all modern conveniences. Surrounding the offices is an acre and a half of fine lawn, on which shrubs and ornamental trees have been planted. This lawn is to be increased to four acres in the near future, and made

a beautiful park. When finished it will certainly present an imposing appearance.

HOW THE STOCK IS WINTERED.

Of several large buildings, the finest of all is the new storage cellar. In the early years of the company's existence a small storage cellar, 12 x 30 feet, sufficed to winter over the stock. In a few years a larger one, 40 x 112 feet, was erected. By 1903 this also fell short of the company's requirements, and a large brick, frost-proof storage cellar, 100 x 160 feet, was built, in which to handle the different kinds of larger nursery stock. After being shown through this fine building, and noting the great precautions that are taken to insure the preservation of the stock in the very best condition, the representative of *The Horticulturist* was not surprised to hear Mr. Morris remark, "After giving it a thorough trial, we believe we have the best storage building on this continent."

The structure seems to be perfect in every detail. It is absolutely frost proof, and the ventilation is such that the air can be kept clean and pure at all times. A driveway runs through the building, and the entrances are provided with double doors, which may be bolted and made air-tight if necessary. The temperature can be held at any point desired, and its control, as well as that of the atmospheric condition within the walls, is such that trees can be kept there in a most healthy and thrifty state for many months when necessary. This was shown conclusively last year by an

INTERESTING EXPERIMENT

with some nursery stock which was left over. Trees were kept until July, and when examined were found to be in excellent condition for planting out. As a further safeguard against loss of stock, the building is supplied with an efficient water system. If on examination the stock shows any signs of becoming dry, it is an easy matter to water it thoroughly and quickly.



The Greenhouses at the Brown Bros. Company Nurseries.

The old office and old storage cellar of the Brown Bros. Company, Nurserymen Limited, may be seen in the rear of this illustration which has been secured from a photograph taken specially for *The Horticulturist*. The new, modern greenhouses, described on this page are also shown.

"Direct sunlight," remarked Mr. Morris, "has an ill effect on nursery stock. This, however, is amply guarded against in this building. All the skylights face the north, and are covered with two thicknesses of glass, the outer one being extra heavy ribbed green skylight glass to soften the light."

The small nursery stock, and all imported lines such as seedlings, evergreens, shrubs, etc., are stored in the old building, which is also frost proof. This building holds about 1,000,000 small stocks, while the new one will hold some 500,000 large trees, in addition to which there is room in each building for packing. All packing is done under cover, so that the young trees are not exposed to sun and wind. This modern method has superseded the old one of heeling in outside, and digging as needed, leaving the trees for hours exposed to the sun and wind before the packers get them into the boxes. With the present conveniences and accommodations packing can be commenced in late winter, and shipments made as soon as spring opens, thus giving the

purchaser the advantage of an early delivery.

ORNAMENTAL STOCK A SPECIALTY.

Special attention is given to ornamental stock, trees, shrubs, roses, climbing vines, etc., and the laying out of ornamental grounds is a special feature of the business of the Brown Brothers Company. The home farm is almost entirely devoted to ornamental lines, and to aid in securing the best roses, clematis, rubber plants, palms, hardy shrubs, etc., eight greenhouses have been constructed and expert propagators put in charge. The advantage of growing roses in this way is that when grown on their own roots they will not sucker or send up a shoot producing natural, uncomely flowers, and the purchaser is sure of the desired variety. Last year the output was 20,000 clematis and 75,000 roses, besides many thousands of shrubs and vines. "Our undivided attention," said Mr. Morris, "is given to growing and selling nursery stock, and our aim is to handle only the best that can be grown. We have a

force of canvassers soliciting orders which will vary from 1,200 to 1,500 men, working in Canada only."

A row of Montmorency cherry trees, about 350 in all, on either side of a driveway half a mile long, running through the middle of the home farm makes a beautiful sight. This roadway is further beautified by a pyramidal arbor vitæ hedge inside the row of trees.

EXTENSIVE PLANTINGS OF FRUIT TREES.

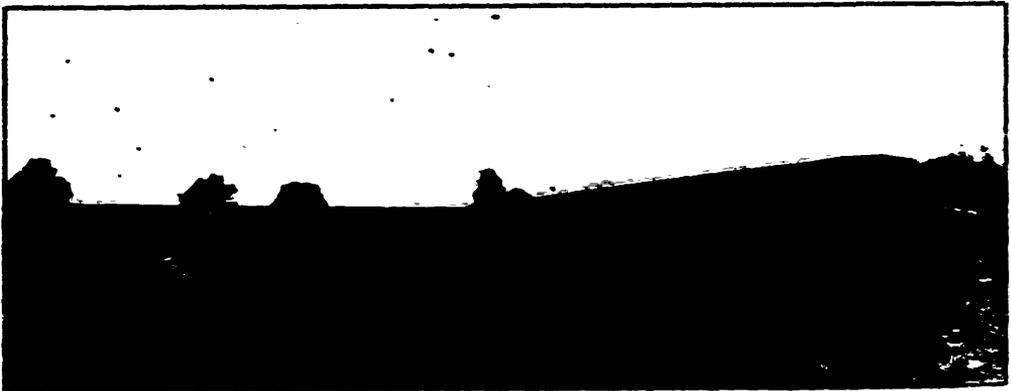
The Horticulturist representative was driven by Mr. Morris to their various plantings of nursery stock, and was surprised to see how extensive they are. On one road the plantings extend along both sides for a very long distance, and on asking Mr. Morris as to what quantities were set out in these fields, he replied that over 1,500,000 young fruit trees were planted there, and added that on the next road west, and the one still beyond that, were fields containing hundreds of thousands of other young trees ready for the market.

With a total area of over 500 acres devoted exclusively to the growing of nursery stock, every line of nursery product, from the currant bush to the finest of ornamentals is grown. This acreage comprises the home farm of 100 acres, and some eight

other farms of different sizes, which are rented for a term of years, thus giving new land for each successive planting.

It requires at least four years to clear a block of nursery stock. The first year is spent in preparing the soil and adding the necessary fertilizers. "We spend hundreds—yes thousands—of dollars annually," said Mr. Morris, "on ordinary stable manure. One remarkably good feature about the soil of this district is that it produces a great abundance of fibrous roots." These, of course, are very essential, as they provide the true life-giving power to the tree. Besides, there is great variety in the soil of this section within a very small radius, so that various kinds of stock can be planted in the soil best suited for their production."

Like other successful tillers of the soil, Mr. Morris believes in thorough cultivation. The cultivators are started in the spring as soon as the land is dry enough, and an effort is made to get over the plantings regularly once a week until August. In that month cultivation is stopped, so that too late growth may not be encouraged, as the new soft growth is easily injured by frost. About \$50,000 worth of seed potatoes are also handled each year. Although scale pests have never been detected in this dis-



A Storage House for the Wintering of Nursery Stock.

This illustration gives a good idea of the packing yards and the recent storage building erected by the Hibernia Nurseries, Ltd., London, whose plant is fully described in this issue. (From a photograph taken specially for *The Horticulturist*.)

trict, all nursery stock is thoroughly fumigated according to law, before leaving the place.

SHIPPING FACILITIES.

For shipping purposes a private siding runs from the T., H. & B. railway, and gives direct connection with the Michigan Central at Welland, and the C. P. R. and G. T. R. at Hamilton. The facilities for shipping will be even better in the near

future, as now there are two electric lines projected through the neighborhood.

Visitors in the Niagara district will be repaid for any effort made to visit these nurseries, as they are well worth seeing. Our representative, after viewing all the plant and inspecting the numerous buildings, could not help but express great surprise at their extent and completeness. This firm has certainly built up a very large business in a comparatively short time.

THE PACKING OF FRUIT

FIRST in importance of our Ontario fruits is the apple. This statement might have met flat contradiction a few years ago, when the available markets were glutted and prices low, and many apple orchards were rooted out. Especially were the early apples unsaleable, and in all our horticultural journals the advice was, "Plant no summer or fall apples for export."

All this is changing, for new markets are opening, better facilities for carrying the fruit are being provided, and for our early apples cold storage on cars and steamships is yearly becoming more easily available. During August and the early part of September we have Yellow Transparent, Red Astrachan, Duchess, Alexander and other

summer varieties coming in, and the two former at least promise to yield an abundant harvest. These should not be gathered all at one time, as we do with winter apples, because they ripen more unevenly. In our own Astrachan orchard we make at least three pickings of the main crop, in addition to a previous picking of prematures. These latter sell well in the market, put up in 12-quart baskets, because they are the first offered. We have had well colored premature Astrachans sold in Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal at 75 cents a basket, which pays well for the trouble of climbing over the trees for the scattered samples showing red cheeks.

With Astrachans selection of fancy stock



A Building Which Holds 500,000 Trees.

The same cellar erected last year by the Brown Bros. Company, Nurserymen Limited, which is probably the finest of the kind in Canada, is here shown. This building is fully described in this issue. (From a photograph taken specially for The Horticulturist).

often pays well. We have had 40 and 50 cents a 12-quart basket through a good part of the Astrachan season, which lasts with us about three weeks, by carefully selecting stock of uniform size and high color, and so securing a high class custom.

When, however, the crop is large, as it is this season, no fancy packing can prevent our home markets from being overstocked and prices going very low for early apples. Here is just where iced cars and cold storage on steamers meet our case. For some years we have boxed the main crop of our Astrachans and exported them to Great Britain. We do not say we have done well with every shipment, but on the average our net returns have been quite above the prices obtainable in Ontario; indeed, we might say they were always better providing the storage was perfect from start to finish.

A new market is now opening for early apples, which may be much better than Great Britain, namely our great Northwest. With first class refrigerator cars, such as those built by Mr. Hanrahan for the Ontario Department of Agriculture, we hope to put our whole crop of perhaps 2,000 bushels down in Winnipeg in perfect condition this month. Of course there are few fruit growers who can make up car lots from their private orchards as the writer can, who has over 100 trees in full bearing

now about 25 years planted; but in almost every section an association of growers can, by cooperation, make up car lots of early apples, and so get the full benefit of the opportunities now opening. The Alexander is a fine showy apple, closely following Duchess, and we have found it very desirable as a fancy apple for export in cold storage. These and all tender apples should be packed in the bushel box if intended either for Great Britain or for the Northwest.

The Astrachan has been mentioned in particular because of our large experience with that variety, but of the two summer apples the Duchess certainly has the advantage both in appearance and in shipping qualities. It must be gathered promptly, as its colors, however, else the whole crop will be on the ground and so bruised as to be unsaleable.

The Transparent would not deserve mention to Southern Ontario growers along with the two varieties named above, only that it can be put on the market sooner and thus prolong the season. The old Early Harvest is a far better flavored apple, and once was a most profitable early apple, coming in rather in advance of the Astrachan, but we have discarded it on account of its being so very subject to the fungus spot.—W.

Thinning Peach Trees

J. G. DUKE, RUTHVEN, ONT.

IT is best to thin young peach trees which are over loaded, by hand, leaving the fruit ten inches to one foot apart on the branches.

On old trees it is sometimes well to "dehorn," that is, to cut back heavily into the old wood. I have grown the finest kind of Albridges, Wagners and Alexandrias on old trees, by doing this, and those trees that once were too high have well shaped heads, so low that the fruit can be picked from the ground without a ladder.

"I expect to use a few boxes this year for some of my fancy stock. Barrels are so much higher in price than the boxes, I will probably give the boxes a good trial. Three boxes hold about the same as one barrel, and only cost 35 cents, compared with 45 cents for the barrel. There is also a slight difference in freight charges in favor of the boxes."—(W. H. Dempsey, Trenton.

Where the ground is infested with fire-worms there is nothing better than a good coat of ordinary soot from soft coal. —J. L. Neal, Ingersoll, Ont.



Handsome Effect of a Porch Where Vines Grow Wild.

One of the most attractive trolley rides in the province is the one that can be taken from Hamilton to Vineland, through Winona, Grimsby, etc., through one of the most noted fruit sections in the province. A pleasant feature of this ride is afforded by the many handsome houses which may be seen, almost all of them being owned by fruit growers. The porch of one of these homes is here shown, the residence being that of Mr. Murray Pettit, of Winona, who has about 70 acres of fruit, over 30 being under grapes. The first 1000 vines were planted in the spring of 1872, at which time some of Mr. Pettit's neighbors, who are now large fruit growers themselves, asked him if he thought he would ever be able to market all the grapes. The vines about the porch shown are a combination of jasmine, clematis and Boston ivy, growing wild. During the summer season they present a most attractive appearance.

METHODS OF PACKING PEACHES

IN such fancy fruits as these, which are rather to be classed as a luxury than among the staple articles of diet, more depends on the style of packing than with either the apple or the pear. For ordinary grades of peaches the 11-quart basket is the cheapest and best package, for they must be sold with as little expense as possible; but for peaches $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches and over in diameter, with a colored check, the 7-quart basket, or more exactly the 6-2-3 quart basket, is much to be preferred.

Some object to this package because it has the appearance of a half of the 11-quart basket, but sales accounts scarcely justify this objection, for we often find the 7-quart baskets of fancy fruits bringing as much money as the large basket of common stock.

Mr. John Brennan, my neighbor, is a great champion of the Alexander peach. He thins it so closely that all his samples are large and fancy; then he packs in a California peach box, with a special label. The package takes two fruits deep, and all are wrapped in tissue paper.

We use a similar box, but it is a little different in size, being half the Ontario apple box. The object of this size was to secure uniformity in size and for packing car lots. Prof. Reynolds, of the O. A. C., is making a carload of mixed fruits for Winnipeg, and he intends using the California peach crate, or else the Georgia six-basket carrier. Either of these will be more satisfactory for distant shipments than the basket, which lacks firmness, and is not popular.—W.

CANADA'S FRUIT STILL TO THE FRONT

T. H. RACE, OF THE CANADIAN COMMISSIONER'S STAFF.

CANADA is still keeping up the standard of her fruit display at St. Louis quite equal to that maintained by any other country showing. This I found recently on returning unexpectedly to the exposition.

The Canadian stock of apples in cold storage is still holding out and turning out well. I was pleased with the natural appearance of the apples still on the plates, some of which had been exposed for a week or more. Among those keeping their quality and appearance are the Spys, Russets, Kings, Canada Reds, and the Salome. The last named, in fact, has done particularly well all through the season and has attracted a good deal of notice. Some took it for a small sized but nicely colored Spy, and they were not unwarranted in doing so. It has kept both its color and its quality well, and if it had a little larger size it would rank among the best of our long keeping winter varieties.

Samples of the Yellow Transparent are somewhat on the small side, but quite up to those shown by other exhibitors. The Duchess is showing up fairly well, and a few samples also of the Red-Astrachan and Sweet Bough, but not being as well developed as those shown by states much farther south they are somewhat outclassed. It is noteworthy, however, that all early apples are under size this year, even those that came in fully matured from the south.

In pears, those that have arrived and still continue coming from the Grimsby and St. Catharines districts, including the Lawson, Buerre Gifford and Marguerite, are credible, both as regards quality and appearance, compared with other exhibits in the pavilion. Clapp's Favorite is not sufficiently matured so far north as Ontario, Michigan and New York to make a good showing with districts much farther south.

In plums Canada is well to the front in comparison. The varieties now in display

include Abundance, Ogon, Shero and Red June. There are larger samples of all these varieties showing, but none better in quality. I might state that Abundance is attracting considerable notice from expert judges for its unusually high quality, and all the other varieties shown by Canada have attracted attention for quality.

In peaches Canada is showing three varieties, Early Canada, Early Riders, and Alexander. This display only goes to show here, as yet, that Canada can grow peaches and gives us an opportunity to promise what we can and will do later. Some of the state exhibits are now chiefly peaches, and many of them are exceedingly fine. In the Elberta variety Oklahoma surpasses anything that I have ever seen in that magnificent peach, and I question if Southern Michigan will be able to rival it.

Canada seems to be too far away to make a display equal to her capabilities in production either in blackberries or blueberries. Strange to say, the state taking the lead in both of these fruits is Wisconsin, and there is no reason why Canada should not have far outstripped that state in either one, but especially in blueberries. Of course I am not making any high claims for the blueberry as far as quality goes, but it seems to attract attention.

I cannot close this letter without a reference to the magnificent display of Groff's hybrid gladioli, now being made by Mr. Cowel, of Berlin, N. Y. Some of these new strains are so exceedingly beautiful that they are provoking very general admiration. The fact of Groff's name and Canada being associated with them is something to be proud of. One would think that the question, "Can any good thing come from Canada?" had been so fully answered by everything with the name of Canada attached to it down here that it would never more be asked.

Extension Ladders for Apple Picking

A. H. B., GREY COUNTY.

THE grading of apples properly in packing, so as to insure uniformity and to guard the interests of the ultimate customer, the consumer, and the reputation of the grower or packer, is very important, as is the proper packing and conveyance of the fruit to its final destination. There is, however, an earlier question, that of getting the fruit safely, quickly and cheaply from where Nature placed it to the ground level where it is to be graded.

Great difficulty was formerly found in this, particularly with tall old trees. The best fruit is found at the top of the trees (unhappily it is sometimes so with the barrels too), and can only be reached by long ladders, 28, 30 or even 35 feet long. Single piece ladders of such length are inconvenient to take from orchard to orchard, heavy to carry from tree to tree, hard to erect, requiring two to four men, and impossible to place in the middle of the tree where the best apples grow. The result is that these best apples are reached with such trouble they either cost their value, are left on the tree, or shaken down and perhaps ruined. With good extension ladders all these troubles are avoided. The writer has one, and many of his neighbors have been using the Waggoner extension ladders for some time and with great satisfaction. They are made in two sections, which, for carrying, telescope together: a 28-foot ladder, for example, shortening down to 14 feet. This enables it to be conveniently carried on a wagon or from tree to tree. When so shortened down it is very easily erected either on the outside of the tree or in the middle. By means of an endless rope it is extended in a few seconds to any desired height. Thus we have a ladder of almost any length. In taking down, the ladder is reduced in two seconds to half its

length, when it is easily taken down and moved. These ladders have a steel wire set into a groove on the back edge of each side rail and drawn very tight. This enables half the weight of timber to be enough and thus the ladders are wonderfully light and easy to handle, a boy of 14 setting up a 24-foot ladder with ease. With my ladders I am confident that I save ten per cent. more of the very best fruit and can pick 30 per cent. more fruit per day than with the old fashioned ladders.

The Size of the Apple Barrel

IN the July Horticulturist several apple growers championed the 30-inch barrel, which is the flour and not the apple barrel. Not one of these gentlemen, probably, have made any trial of the legal Canadian apple barrel, which is made with the 28-inch staves and holds just 96 imperial quarts, or three bushels, grain measure.

Most of the owners of extensive apple orchards about Grimsby, have, for two years past, entirely discarded the flour barrel, and have used the regular apple barrel for all shipments, including thousands of barrels for Great Britain and Germany. The price received for these packages, so far as can be ascertained, was as good as for the flour barrel size, and no complaints were received from the consignee, so that we have concluded that the price of the apples in these wholesale markets is made on the apple barrel size, and that those shipping the flour barrel size are simply giving away the additional measure.

As for our coopers, we do not find them making the least complaint. Their business in the apple section is making apple barrels, and not flour barrels, and they find it just as easy to order 28-inch staves as 30-inch. Altogether our experience is entirely in favor of the lighter barrel, and we are using no other for 1904.—W.

The Growing of Gooseberries

R. B. WHYTE, OTTAWA, ONT.

GOOSEBERRIES are best planted in the fall and should be put out about five feet apart. If you get your plants in the fall, you can either heel them in then and plant in the spring, or you can plant them then.

In propagating they are very easy to layer; but to get the best plants they are better grown from cuttings. I have never succeeded in growing cuttings out of doors, but I can in the greenhouse where there is bottom heat. Last year I had some given me that had come out from Ireland, and they looked as dry as sticks. I sent them to the greenhouse, and six or seven weeks later each was making a nice plant. I put them in the garden and they have made splendid plants; so that it is apparently easy to grow them in the greenhouse.

As to the length of time gooseberries will grow, I believe the record in the old country is 40 years' continuous fruiting. I don't know if that is to be the record in this country or not, but I have had some plants bearing twelve years, which is a pretty good record. As to soil, there is no use trying to grow foreign gooseberries in gravelly or sandy soil. You must have a rich, heavy clay loam, and it must be well drained and not be a stiff clay. The surface must always be kept open and not allowed to get baked or hard.

The chief difficulty with sandy or light soil is that the roots of the plant get overheated and are practically burned. You cannot grow gooseberries down south at all. As to moisture, gooseberries must have a lot of it. If water is scarce, a good substitute is a cut straw mulch. Spread it on the ground two or three inches thick, and it keeps the ground cool and moist.

The question of pruning is simple enough. With your finger and thumb

pinch out any shoot which is getting a little stronger than the rest. If you make your bushes too open you let in too much sun, and if you don't make them open enough the berries are difficult to pick and you are more apt to have mildew. It is necessary, now and then, to cut out one of the old branches and let its place be taken by new wood. It is the two-year-old and three-year-old wood that bear the largest and finest berries.

The best time for pruning is early in September. It is a great waste to allow your plants to set fruit buds along all your wood, three-fourths of which you don't want at all. By cutting off all the wood you don't want to bear fruit, you are making the fruit buds strong and vigorous and ready to bear fruit next year. As a proof that this theory is right, I may say we never have any off years.

Preserving Currants

MISS M. U. WATSON, LADY PRINCIPAL MACDONALD INSTITUTE, GUELPH, ONT.

THE common red currant may be preserved in the ordinary household in three ways, viz., by canning, by preserving, and by making into jelly. In the first, the fruit is sterilized by boiling, put into sterilized jars, and the jars made air tight, while the contents are still sterile. Sugar is cooked with the fruit or not according to preference. The essential thing is to sterilize everything and thus prevent any access of air.

In preserving, the fruit is boiled with an equal weight of sugar, long enough to thicken the mixture somewhat, and is usually put away in air tight jars. This, however, is not essential, as the sugar is sufficient to prevent moulding. In jelly making the fruit juice is expressed, combined with its own weight of sugar, and boiled three or twenty minutes.

The secret of jelly making seems to consist in boiling it exactly the right length of time, which can only be determined by experience. Any reliable cook book furnishes satisfactory recipes for all the above. The fruit may also be preserved without sugar by the addition of some preservative, such as salicylic acid, but the result is unwholesome.

Small Fruits in the Orchard

"AN easily grown small fruit crop is the blackberry," said W. H. Gibson, of Newcastle, recently to *The Horticulturist*. "I have an acre of the Snider variety which last year yielded 7,000 quarts. The year before the yield was nearly as large. These bushes have been bearing for four or five years and were planted about eight years ago. The berries realized five to six cents per quart.

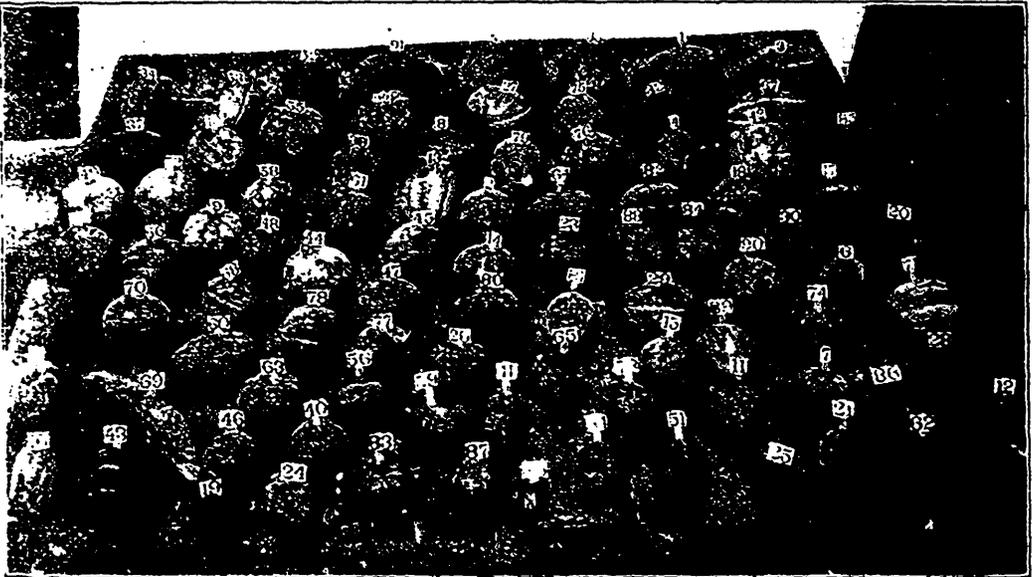
"I obtain women to pick the berries, pay-

ing them 1¼ cents per box. A good picker picks 100 boxes in a day. These bushes are growing in a young apple orchard. Owing to the size of some of the bushes I was unable to spray the apple trees last year, and on that account many of the apples were wormy. In that portion of the orchard where I was able to spray not one out of every 100 apples was injured by the worms. This led me to remove one row of bushes this year between every two rows of apple trees to permit of spraying. Blackberries are more profitable to grow in a young orchard than almost any other crop I know.

A Remedy for Aphis

What is an effective spray for aphis in field nurseries? The insect is on the under side of leaves on new growth. Dipping the branches in emulsion is too slow.—(W. C. Archibald & Sons, Wolfville, N. S.)

Replying to this question Mr. W. T. Macoun, of the Experimental Farm at Ottawa,



Melons Grown at the Central Experimental Farm.

Although Ottawa is not in a melon growing district it has been necessary for the Central Experimental Farm to test all the varieties on the market in order to find out which will succeed best in districts where the climatic conditions are the same as in Ottawa. A number of varieties of musk melons have been tested. From a large number a few early ripening varieties of good quality have been found suitable for general cultivation. A group of these melons are here shown, including Burpee's Netted Gem, Harkness's, Emerald Gem, and the Great Market. The latter is a fine variety, but a little late unless forced. The farm report concerning the successful melon is as

writes as follows: "A very effective spray for aphid in field nurseries and on large trees is kerosene emulsion. Once, however, the leaf curls, there is great difficulty in getting any spray to do very satisfactory work. After the leaf curls dipping is as satisfactory a method as any. If the leaves have not curled, a rod and nozzle might be arranged by means of which the spray could be thrown upward from below."

"If kerosene emulsion is properly made and sprayed on the underside of the leaves," writes Mr. H. S. Peart, of the college at Guelph, "it will kill all the aphid. Use a good pump and make the spray as fine as possible. Spraying is very much quicker than dipping."

* Methods of Preserving Fruit

MRS. AMOS SMITH, TROWBRIDGE, ONT.

FRUIT of all, or almost all classes is best in its season. By that, I mean that it is better and more nutritious when it is taken from the trees or bushes in a ripened condition than it is after it has undergone the ordinary process of preservation and been put away for many months.

There can be no doubt but that in some way it develops an acid in the canned condition, so that when used, if it has been canned long, it gives evidences of a change. Rather than carry out the old plan to "eat what we can," we had better "can what we can't eat." Use what we can in its season, and if there is any left, can it.

Fruits like cherries, berries and apples should not be canned until they are thoroughly ripe. Unripened fruit is decidedly injurious to the human system, and the mere process of boiling, sweetening and sealing does not make it more healthful. Canning does not change its nature or improve its quality.

There are various methods of canning, some of which are comparatively recent. A

method which gives good results is to fill the sealer with alternate layers of fruit and granulated sugar. This should be done without boiling the fruit either before or after it is in the can. Press the fruit quite firmly in the can or sealer, and seal.

Another process which has given splendid satisfaction is to fill the sealer with raw fruit, berries preferred, and then pour hot syrup upon it, made from granulated sugar. Put on enough syrup to cover the fruit, and when the jar is full it may be sealed. Do not press the fruit in the jar. When opened in winter it has an agreeable naturalness both as regards plumpness and taste. The great object is to preserve the natural taste and fulness of the fruit without a loss of the color. The method of preservation that will keep it nearest what it was when ripe is what is wanted. A friend of mine has tried both these methods with good results.

Artificial Fertilizers

I USE artificial fertilizers on my small fruits," said Mr. A. W. Peart, of Burlington, to *The Horticulturist* recently, "because it is difficult to get into the plantations with a wagon without destroying the bushes. Before this year I used muriate of potash on my vineyards at the rate of 200 pounds per acre. This year I am trying an experiment. Sulphate of potash has been used instead, to see if the sulphur in it will not tend to counteract the mildew which is found in some varieties. I scattered it broadcast after plowing and before harrowing.

"On my berries and currants I use nitrate of soda at the rate of 100 pounds per acre, or wood ashes 25 bushels per acre. There is nothing better than good wood ashes.

"My aim is to supply the bushes with what they need most, and to produce a moderate growth. This means firmer and more healthy wood, and the bushes are less subject to fungous diseases."

* Paper prepared for a Woman's Institute meeting.

CANADIAN FLORISTS IN ANNUAL SESSION

THE seventh annual convention of the Canadian Horticultural Association, held in Ottawa, August 9, 10 and 11, brought together a jolly and intelligent body of Canada's leading florists, who managed to spend a most enjoyable and profitable three days. Florists were present from all parts of Ontario and various points in Quebec, while one or two of the more distant provinces were also represented. The convention, in almost every way, was the most successful in the history of the association, as the attendance was representative, the exhibits the most numerous on record, the discussions full of valuable information, and the interest manifest. The great growth in the membership of the association during the last four years was a matter of general congratulation.

THE NEW OFFICERS ELECTED.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, George A. Robinson, Outremont, Que.; first vice-president, W. Suckling, Truro, N. S.; second vice-president, O. J. Johnson, Kingston, Ont.; treasurer, H. Simmers, Toronto, re-elected; secretary, A. H. Ewing, of Woodstock, Ont., re-elected; executive committee, A. Pinateau, Montreal; J. Walsh, Montreal, and A. Annandale, Toronto.

One of the most important features of the gathering was a discussion on the advisability of petitioning the Dominion Government for a removal of the duty on azaleas and other plants. The matter was referred to in the president's address, and later a committee was appointed to consider the subject. On the presentation of the report of this committee a lengthy discussion on the subject was held, which resulted in the adoption of the following motion: "Whereas, at the last meeting of the Canadian Horticultural Association a resolution was passed asking the government to make certain changes in the existing fiscal tariff; and whereas, the Minister of Finance has

stated that there will probably be a general revision of the tariff next year, and has invited an expression of opinion from parties interested, it would therefore appear advisable that this association should give some general expression of opinion upon the subject, and it is therefore resolved that it would be in the interests of the trade and in harmony with the general policy of the country that all articles that can be profitably grown in Canada should be protected by a tariff of not less than 25 per cent., with a reduction of one-third upon importations from Great Britain; that among such articles as can be profitably grown in Canada are palms, ferns, rubber plants, gladiolus, cannas, dahlias and peonies. We also recommend that azalea plants or cuttings of new varieties of plants imported for propagating purposes be admitted free." Carried.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED.

All the speakers who appeared on the program were present, and their addresses and papers were all of unusual interest. Those who took part were: Mr. W. T. Macoun, horticulturist at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, who gave a most interesting and valuable paper on Hardy Perennials Desirable for Florists. This lecture was illustrated by a large display of flowers, a portion of which are shown in the cut used in this issue of *The Horticulturist*. The Florists Trade, from a retail standpoint, was handled quite ably by Mr. A. C. Wilshire, of Montreal, and Holiday Plants by Mr. William Gammage, of London. Wednesday evening Mr. William Findlay, of Brampton, spoke on *The Best Way to Grow Violets*. One of the best discussions of the convention took place over the question, *The Most Satisfactory Fuel for Heating Greenhouses*, it being introduced by Mr. C. Scrim, of Ottawa. The question box proved of general interest. Among the subjects dealt with were. What advantage has iron construction of greenhouses over the ordinary

wooden construction? This question was answered by Mr. O. G. Johnson, of Kingston. A portion of some of these papers has been given in this issue, and the remainder will be published in *The Horticulturist* from time to time.

The meetings were all presided over by President E. Mepsted, of Ottawa. At the opening session an address of welcome was given by Mayor J. A. Ellis, of Ottawa, who referred to the pleasure it gave him to welcome those present to the city. This pleasure, he said, was intensified by the fact that he considered himself an amateur horticulturist, having always taken much delight in the cultivation of flowers. Referring to the exhibit of Groff's seedling gladiolus, made at the convention by Campbell Bros., of Simcoe, Mayor Ellis claimed Mr. Groff is probably the most successful grower of this variety of flowers in the world, and he hoped that his marked success will encourage other Canadian florists to strive to do equally as well. A suitable response was made by Mr. James McKenna, of Montreal, who referred to the enjoyable nature of the convention held in Ottawa four years before. The object of the Canadian Horticultural Association, he claimed, is to encourage a greater interest in flowers and to raise and improve the present standards.

In his annual address President Mepsted referred with pleasure to the marked differ-

ence in the membership and influence of the association to-day as compared with what it was when the association met in Ottawa four years ago. While the fight has been a slow and up-hill one, the members have persevered, until now the association is on a sound basis. A strong effort, he thought, should be made to get more gardeners to join. Now that the association has held its annual convention in most of the principal cities, President Mepsted suggested that smaller cities might be visited so that a greater interest in floral matters might be aroused. Referring to the matter of duty on azaleas and carnations, Mr. Mepsted said: "The minister seems to think the matter too small a one to deal with. The time is now ripe for our association to take the matter up energetically. The plant trade has made rapid strides, the only drawback being the want of uniform standards. There is no reason why this cannot be obtained, as there are not so many florists in the leading cities as to make this impossible. There has been no over-production of plants during the last two or three years, as the supply has hardly been equal to the demand. The relations between employer and employe are of a satisfactory nature, but there seems to be a scarcity of plantmen, which is a decided disadvantage. The employer is somewhat to blame for this, as in all other lines of business; employers develop their



Exhibit of Perennials and Gladiolus at the Florists' Convention.

The flowers here shown were grouped in front of the platform at the Florists' Convention and made a fine display. They include 120 distinct varieties of perennials, including 55 varieties of perennial phlox, shown by Mr. Macoun, of the Central Experimental Farm. The exhibit bore evidence of the wonderful improvement that has been made in these flowers in recent years.

skilled help from boys. This policy should be adopted by the florists. Boys or quite young men when taken into a business can, by sensible and tactful supervision and teaching by the florist or foreman, soon become as useful in many ways as men, and in a few years will develop into very capable florists. I do not know of any business to-day that furnishes as good a field for employment for good all round men." President Mepsted closed by urging those present to take an active part in the discussions.

THE SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The report of the secretary, Mr. A. H. Ewing, of Woodstock, drew attention to the fact that when the association met in Ottawa in 1899 it only had 22 members, while last year 69 attended the annual meeting.

That the association is in a good financial condition was shown by the report of the treasurer, Mr. H. Simmers, of Toronto. The receipts of the association last year amounted to \$248.30, including \$138 for membership fees. The previous balance on hand was \$90.70, and as the expenses through the year were only \$63.50, the association has a balance on hand of \$184.80.

SOME SPLENDID EXHIBITS.

One of the best features of the convention was the excellent display of floral exhibits and florists' supplies. These included a great display of hardy perennials made by Mr. W. T. Macoim, of the Experimental Farm at Ottawa, and of Groff's seedling gladiolus by Campbell Brothers, of Simcoe. The Experimental Farm exhibit included 150 distinct varieties of perennials, of which there were 55 varieties of perennial phlox, showing the great improvement that has been made in this flower in recent years. The object of the collection was to show as many as possible of the best perennials which bloom in late summer.

One large table was taken up with the excellent exhibit of J. Gammage & Sons, of London, showing palms, araucarias, rub-

bers, asparagus plumosus, begonia D'Lorraine, and a number of small plants used in the trade. The palms and asparagus were particularly fine. This firm grows 20,000 palms and 40,000 asparagus plants, and the exhibit showed these plants in all sizes from 1½-inch to 6-inch pots.

Other exhibits included a large display of floral supplies by D. J. Sinclair, of Toronto; flower pots, jars, etc., by the Foster Pottery Co., of Hamilton, Ont.; wire designs by George J. Fisher, of Ottawa, Ont.; florists' holiday boxes by J. C. Wilson & Co., of Montreal; saleable sized palms, assorted ferns, small cyclamen, etc., by Messrs. Grobba and Wandry, of Mimico, Ont.; an excellent assortment of palms, ferns, asparagus plumosus, etc., by J. Gammage & Son, London, Ont.; an especially well grown lot of ferns, from seedlings to plants in six inch pots, by C. Scrim, of Ottawa; small saleable ferns, seedling palms, etc., by Messrs. Hall & Robinson, of Montreal; commercial ferns by Joseph Benouth, of Montreal; ferns in two to ten inch pots, by Graham Brothers, of Ottawa, Ont.; nephrolepis Scottic, by John Scott, of Brooklyn, N. Y.; sweet peas, by Frank Brown, of Barrie, Ont., and musk melons by I. J. Gorman, of Montreal.

On Wednesday afternoon the members drove to the Experimental Farm, where a most pleasant afternoon was spent. On Thursday the members devoted the day to visiting the sights and places of interest in and around the city and were entertained at dinner by Mr. C. Scrim, the well known florist of Ottawa. The greenhouses of Messrs. Graham Brothers, Wright and Scrim were among those visited. The three days' convention had a most pleasant closing on Thursday evening, when a banquet was held at the Windsor hotel. When the Toronto contingent was boarding the train for home their Montreal and Ottawa brethren, who were at the station to see



A Portion of the Gladiolus Exhibit at the Florists' Convention.

One of the best features of the recent convention of the Canadian Horticultural Association was the splendid exhibit of flowers in the manner in which the hall was decorated. Probably the best exhibit of any was the one made by Campbell Brothers, of Simcoe, Ontario, a portion of which is here shown. It included several hundred of Croft's new hybrid seedling gladiolus, principally of the lighter shades. The great improvement that has taken place in these flowers was well illustrated by the exhibit. Gladiolus are now being classed as one of the best flowers for table decorations from the middle of July to the middle of September. A large quantity of these bulbs are grown in the vicinity of Simcoe from whence about 75,000 were exported last spring to all parts of the world. This exhibit attracted general attention at the convention and was much admired.

them off, exhibited their muscle by bouncing each one in turn and helping them back into the car through the windows. The banquet had nothing to do with this.

Those present at the convention included Messrs. A. C. Wilshire, A. Gibb, R. H. Seabrook, W. C. Hall, W. H. Horobin, J. Harrigan, J. Bennett, T. C. Gorman, J. Henderson, J. McKenna, A. Pinoteau, A. Walker, F. J. McKenna, George Milne, C. Denyncke, A. Ferguson, G. A. Robinson, J. Walsh, G. H. Opton, R. Burrows, P. J. Darcy, of Montreal; Messrs. E. F. Collins, T. Manton, G. Manton, F. H. Miller, A. Jennings, H. G. Dillenwith, E. Grice, D. J. Sinclair, C. Nesbitt, W. Muston, W. J. Lawrence, A. Amundale and R. W. King, To-

ronto; Messrs. J. A. Wallace, L. Williams, J. Graham, E. Mepsted, C. J. Wright, R. Wright, C. Scrim, W. Kehoe, of Ottawa. Others present were Messrs. I. Wilson, R. C. Winter, of Aylmer; Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Fraser, of Prescott; R. Brooks, of Fergus; F. Cheesman, W. Gammage, of London; J. Campbell, of Simcoe; W. McCann, of Billings Bridge; W. Findlay and W. Downing, of Brampton; Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Johnson, of Kingston; J. E. Killen, of Windsor; W. E. Smith, of Cumming's Bridge, and T. Pewtress, of Pointe Claire, Quebec. It was a splendid convention, and when the florists meet in Montreal next year the Montreal people will have to work hard to surpass it.

A Mistake Occurred.—There is a mistake in my letter in the August issue of *The Horticulturist*, as Mr. Jacob Moore, who originated the Brighton grape, lived in the township of Brighton just east of Rochester. The viney in which the Rose Chassellas was growing was owned by the late Joseph Hall, of Rochester, after whom the Joseph Hall Works of Oshawa were named. My partner in the nursery at Rochester, Henry

E. Hooker, purchased the original plant of the Brighton for \$500.—(Francis Wayland Glen.

I invariably plant a few sweet cherries through my orchard for the birds. They need and like them, and show their appreciation of my kindness by hunting and eating annoying pests.—(John D. Wieg, Kingsville, Ont.

Commercial Bulb Growing

JOHN A. CAMPBELL, SIMCOE, ONT.

HARVESTING gladiolus bulbs begins in September, the young stock being dug first. Different methods are employed, but generally two men with spades dig a row one on each side, and a third man pulls them up, securing as many of the bulblets as possible. The stalks are cut off close to the bulb and the bulbs placed in pots, three or four inches deep. After being allowed a day or more to dry, they are carried to the cellar and placed on racks.

After the bulbs are dry the soil where they grew is run through sieves to secure the small cormels left in the ground after digging. During winter the bulbs are cleaned up. The saleable ones are prepared for filling orders and the young stock sorted for planting. The bulbs are ready for market at two and three years old. A very general mistake made by customers is in judging of the value of a bulb by its size, some even asking for samples to see how large they are.

It might be pointed out, here, that a gladiolus corm is quite different from the bulbs of the hyacinth. In the latter case the flower spike is already formed in the bulb, and upon being placed in growing conditions it soon appears supported very largely by the nourishment stored in the bulb. In the case of the gladiolus the flower spike is not formed for two months after the plant has started to grow, and success depends upon cultural conditions rather than on the size of the bulb.

Canadian Moonseed.—The specimen plant submitted by Mr. D. McKechnie, of Walkerton, is known as the Canadian Moonseed (*Menispermum Canadense*). It is a graceful hardy climber and can be used with good effect in the home grounds. There are a number of Canadian Climbers like the Moonseed which would become very popular if cultivated and known better. (W. T. Macoun, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.)

The Mealy Bug on Coleus

PROF. H. L. HUTT, ONT. AGRIC. COLLEGE,
GUELPH.

I have a coleus which is covered with a small insect that looks somewhat like aphid. The insect seems to work at the joints, and also on the leaves. The stem becomes colorless above where they work. I washed the leaves in water, then smoked it with tobacco, and sprinkled on insect powder, all of which proved useless. I am enclosing a leaf with a specimen of the insect. Can you advise me how to destroy the insect?—(Agnes E. Smilie.)

The insect on your coleus plant is what is commonly known as the Mealy Bug, a distant relative of the Aphid. It takes its food in the same way, by sucking the juices of the plant. The best means of getting rid of these insects is to remove them by means of a small brush, usually an old tooth brush can be used for this purpose, and it is well to dip the brush in strong soap suds, which helps to destroy the insects when it comes in contact with their soft bodies. Care should be taken to dislodge them from the axils of the leaves, where they hide themselves beneath a cottony covering filled with wax, which they exude from their bodies.

Care of a Cedar Hedge

W. T. MACOUN, HORTICULTURIST, CENTRAL
EXPERIMENTAL FARM, OTTAWA.

I have a cedar hedge, the bottom of which is dying out. The growth is all going to the top. Would it be best to put in young cedars to fill up the gaps or to take three feet off the hedge?—(James Fleming, Port Hope, Ont.)

I would suggest a severe heading back, but not back as far as the dead wood. This would induce growth on the lower branches. It would also be advisable to fill up the part with cedars, as this is a quick way to make a hedge look well.

The dying of the bottom of the hedge is usually due to too much shading of the hedge by large trees. If it is possible I would advise giving the hedge more light, providing that shading has been the cause of the trouble.

AMONGST WESTERN FLOWERS

WM. HUNT ONT. AGRIC. COLLEGE, GUELPH.

OUR western friends are evidently not so engrossed in the development of their grand country along agricultural and commercial lines, as not to be able to devote some portion of their time in beautifying the surroundings of their homes with plants and flowers. This fact was amply demonstrated by the splendid exhibit made by both professional and amateur plant and flower growers at the recent Dominion exhibition held in the city of Winnipeg.

Although the floral exhibit would not in point of size compare with similar exhibits seen at a few of our large eastern fairs, still, as regards quality and general excellence, it was a most creditable display. In fact, in a few of the classes represented I have never had the pleasure of awarding prizes to plants and flowers of such high class quality. One of the most noticeable exhibits was the specimen fuchsia plants shown in connection with the amateurs' exhibit of window plants. Some of these plants were simply superb, several of them being of such ample proportions that one plant would fill a window of even more than ordinary dimensions. These specimens were in fine condition.

Another feature of the amateur exhibit was the large and gorgeous display of sweet pea blooms. The collection that gained the premier prize in this class surpassed anything I have ever seen exhibited, both in quantity and quality, as well as in the wide and varied range of shades and colors shown, there being upwards of 40 named varieties in this exhibit. Great care had also been taken in the selection and arrangement of the different shades and colors. Several other collections of sweet peas, both in the professional and amateur classes, were also of special merit.

The display of cut flowers of other annuals was also very good, the fine spikes of Ten Week Stocks being particularly notice-

able. Pansies and Phlox Drummondii were of good quality, the type of flower in both of these comparing very favorably with the best strains seen at floral exhibits in Ontario.

The exhibit of cut flowers of perennial border plants was not a very large one, but some good specimen blooms of perennial Larkspur, Gaillardia, Coreopsis, Lychnis chalconica, Monarda, and many other favorite old border plants were much in evidence amongst the perennials. One variety that was very prominent, not only in the collections, but also in the bouquets, designs, etc., was the beautiful delicate sprays of the *Gypsophila paniculata*. The graceful panicles of the star-like flowers of this pretty border perennial were used very effectively in relieving the heavy appearance that many border flowers present when arranged for decorative purposes, unless relieved by flowers of a lighter and more delicate texture of growth. The perennial *Gypsophila* answers splendidly for this purpose, the plant is quite hardy, and although not a showy border plant, its light elegant sprays of white starry blossoms make it invaluable for cut flower decorative purposes. The double flowering *Achillea* is also very plentiful and succeeds well in the west. Some fine specimens of the two last mentioned perennials were in full bloom in the flower borders surrounding the remains of the now historic gateway of old Fort Garry, on the banks of the Assiniboia river. The small enclosure around this romantic spot is now very nicely laid out with walks and borders, the latter being very tastefully planted with shrubs and perennial plants, the specimens of the *Gypsophila* and *Achillea* before mentioned being particularly noticeable.

Two collections of wild flowers common to Manitoba were shown. The exhibit there



The Florists' New President.

At the recent meeting of the Canadian Horticultural Association in Ottawa the members chose for their president for the coming year Mr. George A. Robinson, of Outremont, Que., who is here shown and who is a member of the firm of Hall & Robinson, among the best known florists in Montreal. His first experience in floral matters was received in England, where he secured a thorough practical training in English gardening, later moving to Montreal. For several seasons Mr. Robinson acted as gardener for Mr. Joyce, at Montreal, where he gained the reputation of being one of the most skilful gardeners in Canada. Mr. Robinson has been president of the Montreal Gardeners' and Florists' Club and has won many prizes at Montreal shows for his floral exhibits. An interesting feature of the recent convention was the fact that every past-president of the Association since its organization was in attendance; these gentlemen being Messrs. W. J. McKenna of Montreal, J. H. Galmage of London, J. H. Dunlop of Toronto, J. Bennett of Montreal, T. Manton of Toronto, and E. Mepest of Ottawa, who held the office in the order given.

secured the first prize was made up of about 100 specimens of flowers of plants and shrubs. Many of them were very beautiful, and several species shown were quite new to me, and are very rare in Southern Ontario, if found at all. Nearly all of the varieties of wild flowers shown were correctly named. This exhibit proved quite an attraction to many of the visitors from other provinces.

The plant display was very creditable, the palms, ferns and flowering plants comparing

very favorably with eastern exhibits, all classes of greenhouse plants being well represented both in the amateur and professional classes. One display of tuberous rooted begonias, shown by one of the florists of Winnipeg, deserves special mention. This exhibit was not entered for competition.

A very large and comprehensive display of cut flowers of exceptionally good quality, shown by the superintendent of Elmwood Cemetery, comprised a greater variety of flowers than most of the competitive exhibits, and gave the visitor a good idea of what it is possible to do in the way of out door flower culture in the far west. Altogether the exhibit of plants and flowers was very creditable, and it was gratifying to see that floriculture is at least keeping pace with the wonderfully rapid growth that this Chicago of Canada is making in other directions.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE EXHIBITS.

Possibly a word or two on the fruit and vegetable exhibit may be interesting to readers of *The Horticulturist*. The fruit exhibit was not a large one. Although the exhibit was of small proportions and consisted wholly of small fruits, principally raspberries and currants, the fruit shown was of very good quality. One plate of Louden raspberries was extra good. The black, red and white currants were also good. There were no apples, pears, or peaches, and but one plate of strawberries. These latter, however, were of very good quality. I did not have the pleasure of judging the fruit display, but was told by the gentleman who made the awards that the fruit display was not representative of what Manitoba could do in small fruits.

The show of domestic preserved fruits, pickles and home made wines demonstrated that the housewives of Manitoba are not a whit behind their Ontario sisters in canning and preserving the comparatively

limited list of fruits common to Manitoba. The exhibit of domestic preserves, etc., was quite a large one, the many different varieties of pickles exhibited being excellent and tastily put up.

The vegetable exhibit was splendid, more especially in point of quality rather than quantity, and although I had only time for a casual inspection of this exhibit, I saw sufficient to convince me that vegetables of first class quality can be grown around Winnipeg. The exhibit contained some fine specimens of almost every kind of vegetable to be seen in Ontario at the same season of the year.

One other splendid exhibit, I cannot omit to mention, and that is the one from the Pacific province. This was in charge of Mr. Palmer, the Commissioner of Fruits for British Columbia, and his assistant, Mr. Brandrith, both practical fruit growers of the western province. This exhibit demonstrated what our friends on the Pacific coast can do in growing small fruits. There was

a really grand exhibit of cherries. It is no exaggeration to say that they were in size as large as medium sized crab apples, of a firm fleshy texture and good color, and above all were in excellent condition after their trip over the Rockies. I think I am correct in saying that these cherries were shipped in ordinary ventilated cars. If so, they were in a really fine attractive condition for exhibition or sale, and I feel satisfied that if our Ontario fruit growers wish to compete successfully with the fruit growers of the Pacific coast they will have to put forth every effort to have our fruits from Ontario placed on the western markets in the very best condition so as to obtain a share of the immense market opening up from Winnipeg and west to the Rockies. The display of fruit from British Columbia was a source of great interest, and Mr. Palmer and his equally genial and affable assistant were kept busy answering questions and giving information concerning their excellent exhibit.

FLOWER AND PLANT LORE

EDWARD TYRRELL, TORONTO.

SUNFLOWER: This Peruvian plant has been named *Helianthus* from the Greek, *Helios*, sun, and *Anthos*, flower, because its corolla bears a resemblance to the great luminary of the day.

Uplift, proud Sunflower, to thy favorite orb,
That disk whereon his brightness loves to dwell;
And as thou seem'st his radiance to absorb,
Proclaim thyself the garden's sentinel.

—Barton.

Phillips, writing on the Sunflower, says that on account of its resemblance to the sun, it was used in the religious ceremonies of the ancient Peruvians, who worshipped the god of day. The virgins who officiated in the Temple of the Sun were crowned with the *Helianthus*, made of pure gold, and wearing them also on their breasts

and carrying them in their hands, which reflecting the rays of their deity by the brilliancy of the metals formed an effect of the most imposing grandeur.

History reminds us of the enormities which the treacherous Spaniards committed on the plains where this plant grows luxuriantly. These infatuated pilgrims attempted to enlighten the unfortunate natives, who, in the simplicity of their hearts, poured out their adoration to the sun as the grandest object which their imagination could conceive; so their glaring and favorite flower will ever remain a memento of the folly of those who attempt to inspire the ignorant with an idea of pure religion through the assistance of craft and cruelty.

The sunflower is generally considered

unfit for a small garden. I, however, grow three each year in my little garden, and their handsome leaves and luxuriant growth I continually admire. Gerard (about 1569) describes this plant under the name of "Flower of the Sun," marigold of Peru, "that it grew in his garden in Holborn (London, Eng.) 14 feet high, with flowers 16 inches across." These large flowers have been known to contain more than 2,300 seeds. The seeds are excellent for fattening poultry, and the oil from the seeds makes good salad oil.

SCABIOUS—SCABIOSA

This flower is found in the Caucasus, Phrygia and south of Europe, and is known as the Pincushion Flower, Blue Bonnet, Blue Buttons, Gypsies Rose, Devil's Bit,

and the purple one as the Mournful Widow. It derives its name from Scabies, because the common sort is said to cure this and other cutaneous complaints, and on this account it is fabled that the devil having found the plant in Paradise, and envying the good this herb might do to the human race, bit away a part of the root in order to destroy the plant, but which still continues to flourish with a stumped root, and hence one of the species is called Devil's Bit. The Scabiosa is an old favorite, and of late years has been greatly improved. The plant is 12 to 24 inches high, the flowers are white, pink, scarlet, crimson and maroon, borne on long wiry stems, and excellent for bouquets. It is an attractive flower in the garden.

Ground Ivy in Lawn

PROF. H. L. HUTT, ONT. AGRIC. COLLEGE,
GUELPH.

The grass on a portion of my lawn is being smothered by a noxious weed, a specimen of which I enclose. It seems impossible to destroy it. Kindly state best means to eradicate the weed.—(J. Gardner, Bayfield, Ont.)

The weed is the Ground Ivy (*Nepeta Glechoma*), one of the creeping species of the mint family. This plant has been used largely as a trailer in the making up of hanging baskets, but when it escapes from such cultivation it becomes a very troublesome weed in the lawn. It has a creeping stem, which works through the grass and strikes root at every joint.

In moist shady places it often crowds out the grass entirely. It has, however, very shallow roots, and the easiest way to get rid of it is to remove a couple of inches of the surface soil in which it is growing so as to entirely remove the rooting portions of the stem and replace with fresh sod or soil. If soil is used instead of sod, a fine surface should be made and lawn grass may be sown at any time, preferably early in the spring.

Pests on Clematis Vines

W. T. MACOUN, CENTRAL EXPER. FARM.

I have two clematis, a *Jackmanii* and a *Henryi*, which were attacked last year in a rather peculiar manner. A stem would suddenly wither and lie down to the ground, a little while after another would do the same, until the *Jackmanii* appeared to be completely dead. The *Henryi* had only two or three stems killed. Both are alive and growing again this year, but a few days ago one stem of the *Henryi* wilted down as last year. What is the cause? Have looked for insects at roots. Would the trouble be caused by dogs? Other flowers are not affected in the least degree.—(E. Gurney, Hespeler.)

The large flowering clematis are frequently affected with a disease caused by a very small nematode worm which works on the roots of plants, causing the whole top to die or part of it at a time. This little worm does most damage to young plants in the greenhouse, and it is supposed that it is brought from the greenhouse outside with the plants.

The best remedy known is to allow the soil in which the plants are growing to freeze to a considerable depth, as it is believed that this will destroy the nematodes. The insects at the roots would not be noticed as they are very small.

EARLY VEGETABLE MARKET GROWING IN IMPORTANCE

“THE growers in Essex county who this year forced vegetables for the early markets obtained the best prices they ever realized. This was the case in spite of the fact that many more raised vegetables in this way this year than ever before. The indications are that there will be a great development in this line in the near future.”

These remarks were made to The Horticulturist recently by Mr. W. W. Hillborn, of Leamington, who while in Toronto a few days ago called on Hon. John Dryden to suggest that some experimental work of value might be undertaken in connection with the forcing of early vegetables. “Had it not been for the returns they received from their vegetables,” said Mr. Hillborn, “a number of the fruit growers in Essex county, whose orchards were ruined by last winter’s severe weather, would have been in a very critical position financially. As it is, a number of them have done so well with their vegetables they are now on their feet again.

“The demand for these vegetables, which are started in the greenhouses along in February or March, and set out under cotton as soon as the weather moderates, has been greater this year than ever before. They have been shipped to points extending from Montreal to Winnipeg, and the demand has not been nearly supplied. Shipments started about the last of May with cucumbers and early cabbage, which were followed by tomatoes and will end with musk melons. By the time the season is over, fully two cars a day will have been shipped from the vicinity of Leamington for some two months.

“The satisfactory prices realized were probably due to the scarcity of fruits. A number of the growers have not succeeded as well as they might have had they owned their own greenhouses. Some of them who undertook this work did not fully understand all the requirements and they had to

learn by experience. Those who did not have greenhouses had to depend on others for their plants, with the result that many of them received poor plants, and consequently were unable to obtain thoroughly satisfactory results. The success of the growers, on the whole, however, has been sufficient to leave little doubt that many more will undertake the growing of vegetables in this way next year.

TRADE IS GROWING.

“The trade in Canada seems to have reached the point when a large quantity of early vegetables can be consumed. To fill this demand in the past considerable quantities of vegetables have been imported from the southern states. People are now finding out that our Canadian stock is better than the southern vegetables, and as soon as it is ready for the market it crowds the imported vegetables out. There is no reason apparently why Canadian growers should not supply the greater part of this demand.

“For two years I have shipped vegetables from Leamington to Detroit, and generally secured sufficiently good prices to enable me to obtain a satisfactory profit even after paying a duty of 25 per cent. A Detroit commission merchant who handles my vegetables informed me that our Canadian vegetables were better than those he was securing from the south, and that they realized higher prices. A Montreal dealer has also written me to the same effect. Growers when sending vegetables to the Detroit market have to exercise considerable care to ascertain whether or not the market is glutted, for if so, prices drop materially, no matter how good the quality of the goods.

“Before this trade can attain its full development it will be necessary for the growers to obtain better rates from the railways. This year I made two shipments of tomatoes to Winnipeg by express, there being 327 baskets all told. The charges amounted to 150.

while my profits were only \$112 on the lot. This means, of course, that the railroad got more out of the consignment than I did.

A HANDSOME PROFIT.

"An evidence of the profits that can be made from growing vegetables in this way when carefully managed, is afforded by the returns obtained by one grower last year from one and a quarter acres of land. A little cheap greenhouse costing only \$30 was erected in which a sufficient number of tomato plants for one and a quarter acres of ground were started. From this piece of land the tomatoes sold realized \$660. The grower estimated that his total expense, in-

cluding the cost of the greenhouse, did not exceed \$160, leaving a net profit of \$500. Of course, it must not be supposed that every person can make a profit like this.

"There is much to be learned in this work which can only be gained by experience. Unless care is taken, growers can easily lose considerable sums of money in the growing of vegetables instead of making any. As this industry is likely to grow in value, I think it would be well for the Ontario Department of Agriculture to carry on some experiments to ascertain such points as the best method of heating greenhouses, systems of ventilation, etc."

Celery Going to Seed

W. T. MACOUN, CENTRAL EXPERIMENTAL FARM.

Will you kindly let me know the cause of celery going to seed? Some asparagus I planted in May did not come up, and I would greatly like to know the probable reason.—(James Fleming, Port Hope, Ont.

It is probable that the cause of the celery going to seed was that the plants were set out too early and certain conditions of weather, when the celery has a very long growing season, such as a check in their growth due partly to dry weather, would induce it to go to seed. Sometimes, also, the cause is due to the seed itself.

It frequently happens that when seed, such as asparagus, is put in as late as May it will not germinate the same year. I would advise that the seed be left until next year if possible. Perhaps, however, the seed may have lost its germinating power before it was planted.

Ginseng Growing.—Let no person be galled by what is written from time to time in favor of ginseng growing. It cannot be grown with profit; the roots take too long to mature, and the plants require a specially prepared soil which would cost more than the crop would be worth.—(R. Cameron, Niagara Falls, Ont.

Asparagus Bed

"It takes several years to get an asparagus bed established," said Mr. J. Macnamara, a well known market gardener of Bracondale, Ont., to a representative of *The Horticulturist* a few days ago. "I sow the seed in a drill in late September or October and let this grow for two seasons. The following spring I transplant to rows three feet apart and four inches apart in the row. I allow this to stand four or five years longer before I consider it sufficiently established to allow me to take off a crop.

"If well cultivated and liberally manured asparagus makes rank growth, and when established lasts for 12 or 15 years, and sometimes 20 years. Each fall I cut off the old tops and clean off the bed. Then I plow the soil on top of the old row to give protection and carry off the water. In the early spring I add a coat of manure.

"When cutting for market select only good stout stems four or six inches in length. They should be cut every second day, or if the weather is warm, oftener. Warm nights are conducive to quick growth."

I have been a reader of *The Horticulturist* for years and like it well.—(Frank Metcalfe, Blyth, Ont.

Poisoned Bran for Cut Worms

DR. JAMES FLETCHER, CENTRAL EXPERI. FARM.

POISONED bran for cut worms in the vegetable patch has given wonderful results at the Experimental Farm this spring. It should, of course, be applied when the work of cut worms is first noticed, although it is equally successful at any time cut worms are present. We have been using it here for the past few weeks, and it has given every satisfaction.

This remedy has been found most effective against all species of cut worms which attack any kind of plant. Peas, cabbages, melons, cucumbers, etc., have all been kept free from cut worms this season by the poisoned bran.

The method of preparing the mixture is simple; all that is necessary is to moisten the bran with sweetened water so the paris green will adhere and not sink to the bottom. The proportion to use is one pound of paris green to 50 pounds of bran. Even one-half pound of paris green to 50 pounds of bran will be sufficient if the mixture is well stirred, so the poison will be evenly distributed. The mixture is then ready for use: for this it has simply to be scattered in small heaps among the plants to be protected.

Growing Celery

"I HAVE grown celery for years," remarked Mr. J. R. Wood, of Wood & Sons, Ossington avenue, Toronto, to a representative of *The Horticulturist*. "and find the best results from planting two rows 12 inches apart in a trench, with the trenches 30 inches apart. The plants need to be about nine inches apart in the row. I set the plants out about the first of July, and in about ten weeks they are full grown.

"To ensure good growth the plants must be in good soil and continually hoed and cultivated. I always apply a liberal supply



Successful Young Horticulturist.

Good evidence of the opportunities offered young men by the fruit and market vegetable industry in Ontario is afforded by the success that has been attained by Alfred McLachlan, of Leamington. Although only 22 years old, Mr. McLachlan is already a partner in the firm of Hillborn & McLachlan, of Leamington, extensive growers of fruit and early vegetables. Mr. McLachlan, whose parents died when he was a child, started with Mr. Hillborn when only 12 years old. He devotes most of his time to running the vegetable branch of the work, looking after the three green-houses, and over 2000 yards of cotton frame. Mr. McLachlan takes charge of the picking of the fruit and harvesting of the crops, while Mr. Hillborn devotes his attention more particularly to the selling end of the business. In an illustration of Mr. Hillborn's orchard, published in the June issue of *The Horticulturist*, Mr. McLachlan, it was said, was seated on the cultivator. This was an error, as the illustration showed Mr. Hillborn's teamster, not Mr. McLachlan.

of liquid manure. For bleaching I use a 24-inch board. Celery may be wintered over successfully either in pits or in a root house. The main thing in wintering is plenty of ventilation and sufficient covering to keep out the frost. The Paris Golden Yellow is about the only reliable variety I know of to winter over."

For onions or cauliflowers I always put on a liberal supply of salt to guard against maggots. Salt is also a good fertilizer.—(Jas. Conboy, North Dovercourt.

Curing Sweet Corn

PROF. H. L. HUTT, ONT. AGRIC. COLLEGE,
GUELPH.

We are interested in the growing of sweet corn, and have had great difficulty in getting good seed for the past two seasons. We are growing some now to raise our own seed, but would like to get some information as to how the corn should be treated (when ripe), so that it will be perfectly cured. Will we have to hang the ears up in a moderately warm place, or can it be cured satisfactorily by any simpler method?—(Kent Canning Company, Limited.)

Considerable care is required in curing sweet corn for seed. The seed should never be allowed to freeze before it has been thoroughly cured, or its germinating qualities will be injured.

Where only small quantity is required there is no better way than hanging up the ears in a dry, warm, well aired place. Where large quantities are to be cured it may be done by piling the ears in shallow layers on slatted racks, which will allow a free circulation of air, something like hops are dried in hop kilns.

Nitrate of Soda for Tomatoes

PROF. R. HARCOURT, ONT. AGRIC. COLLEGE,
GUELPH.

Nitrate of soda has been recommended for application to tomato plants soon after setting. Will you kindly tell me what proportion to use per plant?—(Mrs. E. R. Atkinson, Summerland, B. C.)

As the tomato plant is somewhat inclined to run to leaf and stem growth, I doubt very much if nitrate of soda would be a very useful fertilizer for it. If the ground is in good condition it does not need much if any special fertilizer, but if the ground is poor there is no doubt that nitrate of soda will tend to give the plants a start and secure a good growth.

On ground in good heart I would recommend the use of a small amount, say 100 to 150 pounds of superphosphate per acre, as likely to give better results than nitrate of soda. The superphosphate should be sown broadcast over the ground.

Vegetable Plots for Poor People

JOHN KEANE, SEC. ASSOCIATED CHARITIES,
OTTAWA, ONT.

MUCH good work can be done in cities by securing the use of vacant pieces of land and allowing poor people to use them for raising vegetables. It is of great benefit to the poorer classes if gone into extensively enough so as to warrant engaging a practical gardener to superintend the operations. In Ottawa, during the four years it has been in operation, I think we can pronounce it a success. The chief reason it was given up was because there was no available ground within reasonable distance of the district where the cultivators lived. Besides, it was liable to be sold at any time, and we could run no risk in spending money where we might have to surrender it before obtaining returns. About one-fourth of our cultivators did not attend as they should to the crops when growing, but on the whole, whilst it was satisfactory in its results, it was found impossible to eliminate wholly the improvident, the shiftless and the lazy ones who made a great start at the beginning but did not keep it up. It is here that a special overseer would probably reduce the percentage of the above class considerably.

We sometimes threatened to take away the plots from those who did not properly attend to them, but this drastic proposal could hardly be carried into effect. If we could have obtained suitable ground even this year we would at once have entered on the plan again.

GROWING MELONS.—Good melons can be grown on gravelly soil, sandy loam, or clay loam with sandy subsoil. Large quantities are sold to large hotels in New York. As soon as the melons are large and netted some unprincipled growers give the stem near the melon a twist to hasten ripening, and by this means destroy the quality.—(R. Brodie, Westmount, Que.)

The Canadian Horticulturist

The Leading Horticultural Magazine in the Dominion.

1. **The Canadian Horticulturist** is published the first of each month.

2. **Subscription Price** \$1.00 per year, strictly in advance, entitling the subscriber to membership in the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario and all its privileges, including a copy of its report and a share of its annual distribution of plants and trees. For all countries except Canada, United States and Great Britain add 50c. for postage.

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THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST,
TORONTO, CANADA

THE EARLY VEGETABLE MARKET.

The announcement, in this issue, that the growers in South Essex who forced vegetables for the early markets have secured satisfactory prices is an important one. It indicates that this line of garden work is fast leaving the experimental stage if it has not already done so.

A few growers in the province, not only in South Essex but in the Niagara district as well, have been raising vegetables in this way for a number of years with profit to themselves and satisfaction to their customers. Why should not more do so? For years Canada has imported quantities of vegetables, during the early summer, from the southern states for which, in many cases, high and even fancy prices have been paid. It has now been demonstrated that it is possible to mature these vegetables in Ontario in time to take advantage of these favorable markets. Our Ontario growers, being so much nearer the consuming centers in Canada, should ultimately, by good management, capture the greater part of this trade.

There seems little fear that the demand for these vegetables will be over supplied. The portions of the province suited for this occupation are so restricted the work can never be conducted on a very large scale. The high prices that have been paid in the past may decline. On the other hand, the consumption is certain to increase, which will tend to place the business on a more permanent basis.

A word of warning, just here, may be in or-

der. The fact that a few have done well this year, raising these early vegetables, is no guarantee that any person can do so. Before it will be possible for growers to make a profit at this work they must secure suitable locations, which in itself is a difficult matter, and have a thorough knowledge of the business. A slight lack of experience or a little carelessness on the part of a grower early in the season may result in the loss of his entire crop. Any rush into this line of work is certain to mean disaster to many.

THE FRUIT MARKS ACT.

It is announced that in future the Fruit Marks Act is to be more rigidly enforced. If a few packages in a shipment of fruit are found to be improperly graded the whole shipment is to be thoroughly inspected. The time is ripe for the taking of such a step. The act has now been long enough in force to leave no room for any excuse on the part of shippers that they are not acquainted with its provisions.

It seems there are a number of packers who still resort to dishonest methods in the packing of their fruit in the hope that at the most only a small part of their shipments will be detained by the inspectors. A few sharp lessons to these parties should be a benefit to the whole trade. The numerous testimonials from British commission dealers that have been published in *The Horticulturist* recently concerning the benefits that have resulted from this act, indicate that a still better enforcement of its provisions, if not too rigid, will not be likely to cause much damage to our fruit trade.

The season for buying bulbs is now near, and horticultural societies will as usual be writing to different firms for quotations on the different varieties. Why not patronize our Canadian firms, and more especially those who use *The Canadian Horticulturist* as an advertising medium? Too many secretaries place their orders with the man who quotes the lowest price, be he a Canadian or one of our cousins from across the line. Canadian purchasers often do not show enough loyalty to Canadian sellers. If the best quality is wanted a fair price must be paid, and Canadian seedsmen will supply bulbs at a reasonable price. Place your orders with those who advertise in this paper and let them know you saw their advertisement in our columns. They all sell goods that are genuine.

Some complaint is being made, and apparently with more or less reason, in regard to the change made this year in the time of placing the exhibits of cut flowers in the floral department of the Industrial Exhibition. In former years the time for placing these flowers has been 11 a. m. Tuesday. This has been changed to 11 a. m. Monday. The change seems likely to make it difficult for outside exhibitors to compete. If growers living at a

distance from Toronto are going to exhibit it will be necessary for most of them to get their material ready and be in Toronto on the Sabbath. The present arrangement gives Toronto exhibitors an advantage. Can not the time set for the placing of exhibits by outsiders be extended?

The Southern Pacific Railway Company, of California, is evidently a good friend of the fruit growers of that state, judging by a little booklet, entitled "Eat California Fruit," recently placed in circulation by the company. It is neatly gotten up and should prove a splendid advertisement of the fruit of that state. After devoting some pages to describing "Why California Fruits Are Best," several interesting chapters tell how the fruits can be prepared for the table, and give numerous recipes for their use. In view of the great name our Canadian fruit is gaining at the St. Louis Exposition is there not a good opening for missionary work of this nature on the part of our Canadian railways? However, if they will only reduce their freight rates we won't press this point.

We hope the readers of *The Horticulturist* are noticing the marked improvement that is taking place in our advertising columns. The advertisements in the August issue of *The Horticulturist* were the heaviest and most valuable in the history of the magazine and this month the record is again broken. If the advertisements continue to increase, as we expect they will, more pages will soon have to be added, and our readers will receive their share of the benefit. Help us to make further improvements by patronizing our advertisers and telling them you saw their advertisement in *The Horticulturist*. They are all reliable men and will treat you honorably.

One branch of the fruit, flower and honey show which cannot be made too prominent is the educational features. The show will fall short of its objects if it does not lead to a greater demand for all three of the principal products it is being held to advertise, viz., fruit, flowers and honey. This is particularly true of the fruit exhibits. Printed matter naming and describing each variety of fruit, with its season and special qualities, will need to be distributed freely. Once consumers can learn what varieties of fruit will best suit their purposes a marked increase in the demand may be looked for.

The suggestion that has been made that the Ontario government should undertake a few experiments in South Essex in the raising of vegetables for the early markets seems a good one. A more or less marked increase in the extent of this business may be expected. Experiments at this period, to ascertain the best kind of greenhouses and cotton frames, the most satisfactory systems of heating and ventilation, etc., may be of great value to many in the near future.

The members of the Canadian Horticultural Association are to be congratulated on the success of their recent annual convention in Ottawa. Such gatherings are a benefit not only to those who attend but to the trade at large. The excellent financial statement presented speaks well for the management in the past. May the association grow and prosper.

Fruit Conditions in the United States

Plums in the United States are not half a crop; pears about two-thirds, both in fine condition at present. Michigan has one-third of a crop of peaches, Delaware half a crop, Maryland and Tennessee one-half, and New York two-thirds of a full crop. Apples are everywhere. The United States, taken as a whole, will have one-fifth more than in 1903, California a lighter crop, Missouri and Kansas, while having double the yield of 1903, still will not have one-quarter of a supposed full crop. New England has more than last season, while New York has as many. Low prices must prevail on apples.—(A. Warren Patch, Sec'y National League of Commission Merchants, Boston, Mass.)

Our apple prospects in the States, taken as a whole, are for a full average crop, with a larger production than in 1903. Judged from present indications the quality of the late fall and winter fruit will be fine. Summer apples are abundant, of an excellent grade, and prices low. The pear crop is fair, with early varieties plentiful and low prices. The southern peach belt is finishing up by far the largest peach crop they have ever grown, while in northern sections the crop will be less than an average. Plums are in large supply, and low prices prevail, with a prospect for improvement on late varieties.—(C. H. Weaver, Pres. International Apple Shippers' Ass'n.)

Liberal Prizes at Ottawa Exhibition

The Central Canada Fair, at Ottawa, will be held September 16 to 24 this year, immediately after the London exhibition. This, as is pretty generally known, is a high class exhibition and is worthy of patronage. The agricultural and horticultural departments are well looked after, every facility being afforded exhibits. The building for the displays in these lines is a splendid one and the prizes are most liberal. The premiums in the agricultural department include a gold medal or \$20 as a special prize, and there are also competitions for special prizes by the Massey-Harris Co.

In the horticultural department there are also special prizes of gold medals. The directors are re-arranging the horticultural building with a view of making the display the best in the exhibition's history. Exhibitors at the Ottawa show have always been well pleased with their treatment, so that those who have not been there are assured of satisfaction if they attend. The secretary, Mr. E. McMahon, will forward a prize list and any other information desired upon application.

Canadian Fruit in England

"While in England last winter," said Mr. M. E. Kyle, of Oakville, Ont., to *The Horticulturist* a few days ago, "I found the Fruit Marks Act had done a great deal to improve the standing of Canadian fruit on the British markets, although even yet some of the fruit shipped from Canada is not what it should be. Unless shipments of inferior fruit can be stopped, our trade will continue to receive more or less injury.

"While in Bath I entered a grocery store, where I saw several barrels of very inferior Baldwins. I asked the proprietor where he had obtained such rubbish, and he informed me, much to my surprise, that they were Canadian apples which he had purchased at auction in Bristol. He had, he claimed, lost at least \$50 through his purchase of that one lot of apples. I was so struck by this information that I sent to Bristol and had one of the Dominion inspectors come to Bath to inspect the apples. Unfortunately the grocer had lost the heads of the barrels and it was impossible to trace the shipment.

"On being asked if he did not think that United States growers might be taking advantage of the good reputation of a Canadian apples to send their apples under a Canadian label, as has been done with shipments of United States cheese, Mr. Kyle replied that he could not say definitely, although he rather doubted it. "American barrels," he said, "are of a different shape, being smaller and having a different hoop from the Canadian barrels, although it is quite possible some of their shippers may have obtained barrels similar to those used in Canada.

"A very large trade," Mr. Kyle continued, "can be done by Ontario shippers who once become known as reliable packers. One large importer expressed his willingness to me to handle 500 to 800 barrels of Canadian apples weekly, if the quality of the shipments could be guaranteed. I have seen Spys, Baldwins and Russets retail for 8 to 12 cents per pound. Outside a special demand for fancy large apples in the large cities from November to May, small apples seem to be generally preferred. As apples in England are generally retailed by the pound, the buyers like to obtain three or more for a pound instead of one or two large ones. Apples which weigh three-quarters of a pound are not liked for this reason."

"Ontario growers who have fine large apples should be able to obtain handsome prices for them if they would ship them in boxes and wrap them with paper. While it costs more to grade uniformly and wrap fruit in this way, the increase in the prices obtained should much more than pay for the trouble and additional expense incurred. Leading buyers told me that if our growers would take the same trouble in packing and grading their fruit as is taken by the California growers, much better prices could be realized. There is hardly a city of any size in Great Britain in which there are not dealers who would be glad to handle fancy fruit

from our Ontario shippers, especially if shipped direct, but if our men are going to open up this trade they will have to make a search for these dealers. Once an Ontario shipper has found such men to handle his fruit it should be possible for him to work up a very fine trade."

Shipping Apples to the Old Country

"The great bulk of my apples," said William Rickard, M. L. A., of Newcastle, to *The Horticulturist* recently, "go to the old country, being shipped to Glasgow, Liverpool, London and Manchester. Up to the present I have preferred the barrel package. The box has not yet demonstrated its usefulness for the shipment of the bulk of the crop. It has, so far, been devoted to the fancy apple trade, but may yet, however, grow into favor and become more generally used. Even this year I think the standard barrel will be used for the bulk of the crop.

"The Montreal, Liverpool and Glasgow dealers do not want boxes, although some Ontario shippers who have forwarded all their apples in boxes have done well. It is a question in my mind whether it would be possible for Liverpool dealers to handle 150,000 barrels of apples a week, as they frequently do, were all the apples to be shipped in boxes."

Two Shipments of Apples

Ontario apple growers who export to Great Britain meet with queer experiences, some of which are hard to account for. One of these was drawn to the attention of *The Horticulturist* lately by Mr. W. H. Dempsey, of Trenton.

"On March 25 last," said Mr. Dempsey, "I loaded a car of apples; three days later I loaded a second car. The apples in each of these cars were equally good. They went to Portland, and were shipped to Liverpool on the same steamer, but were consigned to different buyers. The apples in both cars were branded the same. One car realized about two-thirds more than the other. The apples which brought the lowest prices were reported by the buyer to have sunk six inches in the barrel, and that the juice was running out between the staves. The other reported the apples in his car in perfect condition."

HOW DID IT HAPPEN?

"What I would like to know," continued Mr. Dempsey, "is how one load of apples could have been injured in this way, while the other remained in such perfect condition? I am satisfied both firms were honest and reported the case as it was. When I was loading the second car, which was the one bringing the lowest prices, the engine in the yard was doing considerable shunting and the cars were being jarred rather severely. I have thought that the apples may have been injured by the shunting. On the other hand, the injury may have been caused by heat in the hold of the steamer, as one lot of apples might have been

in a part of the hold where there was poor ventilation.

"Had I not sent these apples to two different buyers I would never have heard these particulars, as if only one man had received them he would probably have reported the whole lot to be inferior and I would never have known which shipment was the worst or anything about them. The varieties consisted of Spys, Baldwins, Ben Davis and Golden Russets in the car which turned out badly, while in the other car were Spys, Baldwins, Ben Davis, Golden Reds and a few Stark."

Only Good and Properly Packed Fruit Wanted

J. W. DRAPER & SON, FRUIT IMPORTERS, LONDON, ENG.

The only articles Canadian fruit growers can send to this market with a prospect of success are apples, the choicest pears and cranberries. There are no present indications of an outlet here for their other products. The packages to be recommended are: The barrel, as at present used, for apples generally, and a bushel box for any very choice apples and pears. Small or common pears are useless. A case should contain about 35 pounds of cranberries. All cases should have small battens nailed on the top and on one end, to keep the cases apart, otherwise heat forms in the centre of a pile while they are on the voyage.

We cannot too strongly recommend care in the selection and packing of the fruit. Only really good fruit should be sent, and a barrel or case should contain equal quality throughout. If this system of packing is adopted we feel certain that success will be attained by the packers, but fraudulent packing or careless selection is sure to bring disaster.

The London market receives very largely from all points, and is generally over-supplied with inferior qualities of fruits, but it is only in the very heaviest seasons that there is a glut of fine-grown and well-packed fruit. A packer who sends to this market should, therefore, try to secure the best portion of the demand that exists, and this can only be accomplished by sending the best qualities.

Great Britain

Taking the growing counties as a whole in the British Isles, the apple crop will be but a full half crop. The bulk of these will doubtless be marketed before the Canadian winter fruit is ready for shipment. At lower prices than last year, there ought to be a fair opening for your country's surplus.—(Craze & Goodwin, commission dealers, London, Eng.)

There are a large number of horticultural papers published in the United States, but only one in Canada, and that is The Canadian Horticulturist. Help us make it a credit to Canada by recommending it to your friends and patronizing our advertisers.

Talks With Fruit Growers.

I have 2,000 peach trees and practically all are winter killed and damaged by water. Fruit of all sorts will be light except apples.—(George Chambers, Kent Co., Ont.)

There will be no fruit for shipping from this district. A good many apple trees are killed, all the English cherry trees and a good many pear and peach trees on sandy soil are dead.—(H. Forbes, Kent Co., Ont.)

Apples here are not more than two-thirds of an average crop. They are free from fungus of all kinds. Orchards that have been sprayed show but few worms and less than 3 per cent. of fungus. Japanese plums are a heavy crop; all other sorts practically dead. Peaches, with exception of a few favored orchards, have been badly hurt by the winter or mice.—(Milton Backus, Kent Co., Ont.)

Aphis and fungus are very bad where spraying is not done.—(J. E. Hambley, Kent Co., Ont.)

Mice were very destructive the past winter. I have eight acres in orchards and never saw trees so badly hurt from frost.—(H. Howard, Wentworth Co., Ont.)

There will be a nice crop of apples in our section if conditions continue favorable. The crop is light, but of good quality.—(A. H. Crosby, York Co., Ont.)

The curculio seems to have gotten in his work on the plums and peaches pretty well, as a lot of the fruit is dropping. Apples and grapes seem to be doing well, and fruit is making good growth.—(Chas. Lowrey, Lincoln Co., Ont.)

Fruit crop below the average in this locality. I have been a subscriber to The Horticulturist for over 30 years, without intermission.—(W. M. Robson, Victoria Co., Ont.)

The past winter was the most severe ever known as far as fruit trees are concerned. I had a seedling winter killed that was 14 years old. Last year's fruit was in good condition at the beginning of June, 1904. Very few pests of any kind on trees this year, a most unusual occurrence. Even our English walnuts are free from pests. The Duchess, Wealthy and Mann apples show no injury from severity of past winter.—(D. J. Hall, Grenville Co., Ont.)

The crop of winter apples along the shores of Lake Erie will be light. The blossoms were damaged by rain and fruit is falling off considerably.—(Jas. Symmington, Norfolk Co., Ont.)

Apples are free from insects and fungus so far, and of good size.—(W. M. Adam, Ontario Co., Ont.)

California growers have adopted a good method of protecting their fruit cases. The lids are nailed on, but are protected by cleats nailed across each end of the cover. When purchasers take the cover off to see the fruit, these cleats prevent the slats from splitting and the appearance of the box being injured.

I consider The Horticulturist a very valuable paper and would not like to be without it.—(Robert Scott, Meyersburg, Ont.)

DIRECT SHIPMENTS OF FRUIT TO DUBLIN

It seems quite possible the value of Ireland as a market for Canadian fruits has been overlooked in the past by Canadian growers. With the object of learning something concerning the possibilities of this market Mr. W. T. Macoun, horticulturist at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, made a trial shipment of Duchess apples in boxes on August 10 to Belfast. The shipment was made as the result of a letter received from a Dublin buyer asking for trial shipments.

Writing to The Horticulturist Mr. Macoun says:

I am sending you a copy of a letter received from J. H. Sheridan, Dublin, Ireland, in which he holds out inducements to Canadian Fruit growers to ship their fruit direct to Ireland. We have already arranged to make several experimental shipments of apples to Ireland this year in boxes. The first shipment of Duchess apples was sent to Belfast, August 20, in cold storage, via Liverpool. This plan may prove too expensive, but as the rates between Liverpool and Belfast are very low, and the fruit can be sent across in a few hours, we are sanguine of the success of the shipment. Further shipments will probably be sent direct. The shipments are being made to Hugh Gordon, 41 Victoria street, Belfast, Ireland, who is a well known commission man.

Yours Truly, W. T. MACOUN.

THE DUBLIN MARKET

The letter received by Mr. Macoun asking for these shipments read as follows:

Home Villa, Columbus Road,
Drumcondra, Dublin,

Dear Sir:

I would like to be put in communication with fruit growers in your district that I may endeavor to arrange with them to send their fruit direct to this market for sale, thereby avoiding the expense, etc., they at present incur by dealing with agents and brokers in Canada and England. I believe that it would

be more advantageous for growers to pack and consign their crops to a market direct where good prices can be secured, than by depending upon the prices offered by agents for the wholesale dealers.

All the fruit on these markets coming from Canada is received through firms in England and Scotland, and then sold in the fruit markets to the retailers. Owing, therefore, to the number of people handling the fruit and the heavy freight rates from Canada to England, and thence to Dublin, fruit is sold here at very stiff prices, but the growers have no benefit out of it as they usually dispose of their crops at fairly low prices.

We have a good market in Dublin for Canadian fruits of all classes, as the home-grown supply is very limited. It is, therefore, open to Canadian growers to establish a good trade with this country which would be to the advantage of both growers and consumers. There would be no difficulty in sending consignments direct to Dublin, as they could come by, say the Head, Lord, or other lines touching this port, and as to getting a profitable market I have no hesitation in saying that I can dispose of all fruit sent me to good advantage. What we require here is steady consignments, and a guarantee that the fruit will be of good uniform packs throughout. I am in a position to dispose of 1,000 to 1,500 barrels of apples per week.

Were I sure that I would receive steady shipments of good quality, I would easily increase this amount, as of course, being here on the spot, I am in a better position to dispose of consignments than the firms in Liverpool, London, or Glasgow, and to better advantage. I wish, if possible, to make the necessary arrangements before the season is too far advanced. As to my bona fides, my solicitors, Mr. Joseph McDermott, 16 Fleet street; Mr. John Coyne, 7 Halston street, or T. J. O'Neill, wine merchant, 62 Dorset street, Dublin, will give any particulars required.—Yours faithfully,

J. H. SHERIDAN

A FRUIT TRADE EXHIBITION

SAMPSON MORGAN.

A remarkable exhibition of fruit packages may be seen in the foreign fruit market at Covent Garden, England. The display is arranged under the auspices of the French government by Mr. Michael Garcia, the head of the firm of Messrs. Garcia, Jacobs & Co., of London. Canadian fruit growers may know that this firm has a branch at Liverpool under the name of Messrs. Simons, Shuttleworth & Co., and at Glasgow under the name of Messrs. Simons, Jacobs & Co., Michael Simons, Esq., J. P., the head of the firm, being a noted authority on fruit trade matters.

The package which attracts the most attention is an iron frame crate, containing shelves covered with strong wire netting. The fruits in it are grapes, pears, greenhouses, peaches, etc. The greenhouses are put up in dome boxes, and the tomatoes in rush baskets. The large iron

frame crate is a returnable package; the small boxes and baskets are sold with the fruit.

In these days fruit producers must market evenly-graded, large, high colored fruit of choice quality, neatly put up in small packages if they expect to get the highest prices. For such the demand in the British market is limitless. The Paris agents send their best well grown greenhouses in little boxes containing 40 fruits in two layers. In each layer there are five rows containing four greenhouses each. They ship early-forced grapes to Covent Garden in boxes of about the same size. The most experienced French shippers recognize the important part that the small and attractively filled package plays in respect to sale. Canadian fruit exporters have in many instances still much to learn in this connection. Possibly these notes on the fruit package exhibition may set some thinking.

Matters That Should Be Settled

G. H. HUTTON, EASTON'S CORNERS, ONT.

The outlook for the export trade in apples, judging from past records, seems promising. There are, however, some conditions that need to be changed before it will be possible to reckon on probable returns.

Last year it was impossible, in many cases, to secure barrels, and when boxes were used the extra cost of picking and packages consumed the profit. Under ordinary circumstances, the northwest offers a good opening for much of our fruit, but the freight charges are too high to warrant much effort to secure this trade. For the smaller fruits I believe that the removal of the duty on sugar, so that canning factories might be established on a profitable basis, would be a great inducement for a larger production of these fruits.

Judging from what I have seen of the McIntosh Red throughout the Ottawa valley, together with my own experience and that of such large growers as Mr. Harold Jones, of Maitland, I believe there is no better apple for this district. It is true that the McIntosh and its kindred is liable to spot, but by careful application of Bordeaux this disease may be prevented from causing injury in excess of 5 per cent. during the most unfavorable seasons. The yield and the price realized for perfect apples will amply repay for the care and treatment.

One of the greatest mistakes that has been made in this section in regard to planting orchards has been in planting too closely. In eight to ten years the branches of the trees in many orchards will interlace. If the trees have room to grow and attain full size the fruit will have a better exposure to the sun and thus have a better flavor and color, and command the highest market price.

Huron County as a Fruit Section

WM. WARNOCK, GODERICH, ONT.

For apples, pears, plums and cherries there is no better district in the province than Huron county, and my experience with grapes and peaches has been very favorable. I have 44 varieties of the best hardy grapes under cultivation, and they have given very satisfactory crops for the past 14 years. I have grown 32-ounce bunches on my Wilder and Eaton varieties, and 26-ounce bunches on my Campbell's Early and Agawam. I have never seen better grapes than can be grown here. The cause of our fruit coming to such great perfection is in our very suitable soil and splendid climate, as trapwood and all new growth of fruit trees have a longer time to ripen and mature at the end of the growing season, from the effect of Lake Huron's deep waters, which keep away severe early frost in the fall for at least a distance of three miles inland.

Aside from the peculiar natural adaptability of this section for fruit growing we in Goderich expect to be favored, above all other parts of the province, in supplying the great northwest sea-coast with fruit. The largest grain boats

from Port Arthur come into Goderich harbor and unload at our elevators, and they will always make the most direct as well as the cheapest means of transportation as far as Port Arthur. These large boats will be strong competitors for freight up the lakes. This will give the fruit growers of this vicinity a considerable advantage over other parts of the province in competing for the trade of the northwest, which is certain to be of very great importance to the fruit growers of Ontario in a few years.

The Best System of Cold Storage

G. W. HUNT, OTTAWA, ONT.

The best system of cold storage is a matter to which I have given a good deal of consideration and experiment during the last four years. Until that time I was seriously opposed to the transportation of our Ontario fruits under ice, and did not change my views until I had it demonstrated to my own satisfaction that our fruits could be transported under ice and not destroy the keeping quality to any tangible degree.

Having made these tests I am firmly of the opinion that the Hanrahan car is without an equal. To my mind it is the only refrigerator car running that is of any use to the growers for transporting perishable fruit long distances. I believe the universal use of the Hanrahan car on Canadian roads would mean at least one to two million dollars a year to the fruit growers of Ontario.

The fact that the goods in this car are delivered dry and in good conditions means a great deal to the grower, not to take into consideration the fact that with the universal use of this car glutted markets would be unknown, as one or two days does not make any material difference in the quality of the fruit. In order to have this or any other system a success the fruit must necessarily be in good condition when it goes in the car, and the car not loaded to the roof. The minimum load can be put in the Hanrahan car and kept in good condition for two weeks.

Only The Best Wanted.—The Fruit Division at Ottawa has received the following report from Inspector John Brown, of Glasgow:

The first shipment of American apples arrived at Glasgow August 10 in the steamship "Anchoria," of the Anchor Line. There were about 100 barrels in the parcel. These consisted principally of Dorchess, which averaged 12s. to 14s. Fruit was small and not of fancy quality. The supplies of home and continental fruit are large, and it will be advisable for Canada to send only her best to Great Britain this season.

The Fruit Division, Ottawa, is warning apple shippers that in order to grade as No. 1 or XXX, apples must be fairly mature. Apples that have not taken on their proper color and otherwise show marks of inferiority as the result of being pulled too green cannot be graded anything higher than No. 2.

Increased the Door Receipts

Our annual show is held in September, and usually has about 200 entries. The prize money paid amounts to about \$150. Last year we gave the children about \$50 in seeds and plants, which were to be exhibited at the fall show. We afterwards found a great many of the children had sold them. However, we had thirty entries, and some of the children obtained, as much as \$5 in prizes.

This season we have given away 150 plants, three to each child, for which we have charged them ten cents, to be refunded if the plants are exhibited. The result has been that we have procured a far better class of applicants than we had last year. We find as a result of the children exhibiting we have an increase in our door receipts of more than double over last year. This year we are considering the advisability of holding a promenade concert in connection with our show.—(H. L. Beal, Sec. Peterboro Hort'l Soc.

Have Held Many Shows

The Gait Horticultural Society held its 12th annual exhibition and flower show at the Hockey rink, August 31 and September 1 and 2. On the opening day the exhibition was open only in the evening, and the two remaining days from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The prize list was a long one, and consisted of all cash prizes. Class A comprised plants in pots, open to all; class B, plants in pots, open to amateurs only; class C, cut flowers; class D, cut flowers, open to all; class E, fruits, to be shown unpolished, open to all, also including grapes grown under glass and in the open air, and class G, vegetables, open to all. There were ten special prizes for different displays, including single flowers, bouquets, baskets, decorated table plants, etc.

School Children's Sweet Pea Exhibition

The most interesting feature of the regular monthly meeting of the Ottawa Horticultural Society during August was the exhibition of sweet peas made by the school children of the city, for which prizes were offered by Mr. R. B. Whyte, of Ottawa. There were 110 entries, many of the exhibits being remarkably fine. The display was a handsome one.

A short address was given to the children by Mayor J. A. Ellis, who acted as a judge of the exhibit. An illustration of this exhibit will be published in *The Horticulturist* before long. The regular meeting of the society was well attended, and there were numerous exhibits.

During the summer the attention of our society has been directed to the beautifying of the old cemeteries in the town, and this work has been entrusted to a committee of ladies chosen from the members of the society. The work has proven very successful and has been the means of bringing our society more prominently before the public.—(C. J. Foy, Sec. Perth Hort'l Soc.

A Popular House Meeting

The members of the Grimsby Horticultural Society met at the house of Mr. Linus Woolverton August 16. Each member was requested to bring at least one contribution to the flower table, and so many of them responded that the dining room extension table at full length scarcely afforded room for the gorgeous display. The hours were from seven to 10 p.m., and the whole affair had the air of an evening reception. An unusually interesting musical program added greatly to the evening's pleasure.



MR. CHAS. MEIGHEN.

One of the most interesting and successful horticultural societies in the province is located in the little town of Perth, the president being Mr. Chas. Meighen, who, it is believed, has done a great deal to improve the public opinion of the town. In this connection Mr. Meighen was the prime mover in having the grounds of the College Institute and public square beautified by planting flowers, with the result that they compare favourably with similar grounds to be found anywhere. Ever since the society's organization some years ago, Mr. Meighen has been on the board of directors. He has always taken a great interest in both show and

having a very fine garden of his own. Mr. Meighen's experience has made him an authority on the growing and cultivation of flowers.

sure, and to this numbers were contributed by the Grimsby orchestra, by Mr. Kimmings, of Winona, a much appreciated soloist, by Miss Mortimer, of Washington, whose mandolin and violin solos were beyond criticism, and others. The president, Mr. A. Rutherford, took charge of the program, and during the course of the evening introduced Mr. J. R. Dickson, representing the Hamilton Horticultural Society, who gave an address, in which he complimented the Grimsby society on conducting such an interesting and profitable social meeting and contrasted it as being far more satisfactory than the large public exhibition with heavy prizes, which so often left the society hopelessly in debt.—W.

This will be the first fall in some years in which our society will hold a separate show, it having hitherto united with the Agricultural society. The show will be held in some large building, centrally located, possibly the town armories. A band concert and promenade will probably be held in connection with the evening show. This society has had the record in past years of giving the best prizes of any horticultural society in the province. Last year five or six special cash prizes were won by zealous members. The paid membership last year was 134.—(Herman O. Guild, Sec. Kingstons Hort'l Soc.

THE FRUIT PROSPECTS FOR 1904.

Realizing that fruit growers at this season are anxious to have some idea of the fruit prospects, not only in Ontario, but throughout Canada and the United States generally, The Horticulturist during August, wrote to some 900 correspondents and well known authorities all over the continent to gain some idea of what the total production of fruit is likely to be, owing to lack of space it has been found impossible to give this information nearly as full as it was intended but fairly complete reports will here be found.

The total apple crop this year is likely to be somewhat less than last season. In Ontario both fall and winter apples will be a medium crop of fair quality. In Nova Scotia and Quebec the yield will be somewhat less than last

Fall Apples a Moderate Crop

The situation as regards the probable yield of the various varieties of fall apples continues practically the same as announced in the July Horticulturist. Reports received from all over Ontario show that the yield of fall apples varies considerably. Many growers report that they will have light crops, while others anticipate a fall yield to a production excessive of last year's by 25 to 30 per cent. On the whole, appearances indicate that the crop will be a medium one. Growers will do well to accept buyers' statements of a heavy crop with caution.

In the counties bordering on the northern shore of Lake Ontario the majority of reports received all go to indicate that the crop will be a medium to full one. As regards the quality it will undoubtedly be quite up to the average. Growers in the Lake Huron and Georgian Bay districts anticipate a light to full crop, the majority of the correspondents placing the yield as a medium one. The same applies to the Niagara district. Many growers state the insect pests have not been as bad this year as last season, and that there has been very little fungus growth.

Less Winter Apples Than Last Year

Although The Horticulturist has heard from numerous correspondents in all the principal apple growing sections of the province, it has been found to be a difficult matter to make any definite estimate of the extent of the probable yield of winter apples. Reports vary widely, some growers estimating the yield in their sections to be one-third to one-half less than last year, while other growers in the same districts estimate an increased yield of 25 to 30 per cent. Some varieties which are bearing heavily in one portion of the province are bearing lightly in others. On the whole the indications are that the supply of winter apples will be only a little less than last season.

Beginning from the county of Halton to the county of Frontenac, along the shore of Lake Ontario a light to medium and in some cases a full yield is generally anticipated. The Baldwin and Spy appear to exist in the counties bordering on Georgian Bay and Lake Huron.

year, while the quality will hardly be as good. In New Brunswick and British Columbia full crops are anticipated. In the United States the total production of apples will be somewhat below last year, but as the quality generally is better the prospects are fair for a somewhat larger volume of barrelling apples. This estimate conflicts somewhat with the statements the commission dealers make, but may be taken as approximately correct.

The plum crop throughout Canada generally will be a very light one. In the United States it will be a little larger but will not be heavy. Pears throughout Canada will not be a full crop, but a fair yield may be anticipated. The quality generally is good.

The Niagara district seems likely to produce a medium crop of winter apples. Many orchards will produce lightly, while some will be almost a full crop, so that the total yield is likely to be a medium one. There is very little complaint of spot or damage to the crop in any way, so that the quality, generally speaking, is likely to be fair.

Plum Crop Practically a Failure

The Horticulturist was evidently well informed last month when it announced that the plum crop throughout Ontario would be almost a failure. Reports received as late as August 25 from all parts of the province, indicate that

The Horticulturist for 15 Months

During the past few months sample copies of The Horticulturist have been sent to a large number of fruit growers. We want all Canadian fruit growers who are not taking the paper to subscribe. The following special offer is therefore made. If any fruit grower not now taking The Horticulturist will send us one dollar it will pay his subscription from October, 1904, to January, 1906, or 15 months for only \$1. Is the paper not well worth it? Send us your dollar and we will send you The Horticulturist, the only fruit paper published in Canada. Address all communications to The Canadian Horticulturist, Toronto, Ont.

in no county will there be more than a light yield, while in the great majority of counties the crop is practically a failure. A majority of correspondents in the counties of Halton, Durham, Ontario, Victoria, Peterboro and Prince Edward estimate the plum crop as a failure, while in Hastings county correspondents place the production at from a failure to a very light yield. In Eastern Ontario the crop is a failure.

Bordering Lake Huron and in the Georgian Bay district reports are to the same effect. Five out of six growers heard from in Lambton, four out of six in Bruce, eight out of ten in Grey, and eight out of ten in Simcoe counties place the production as a failure. In the Nia-

gara district conditions are much the same, being if anything a little more encouraging than in the other sections. In this section quite a few correspondents estimate the yield as a light one. The total crop of the province is not likely to range more than 15 per cent. of last year's.

Moderate Yield of Pears

During the past month the promise for a medium yield of pears has improved. Many correspondents who a few weeks ago anticipated a light yield are now apparently hopeful of a medium to full crop. This is more particularly true in the Niagara district. In

Wentworth, Lincoln and Welland counties early pears will average from a medium to a full crop, while late varieties promise a light to full yield.

Bordering the northern shore of Lake Ontario growers generally expect light to medium, and even full returns. This is true of all counties along the lake. In the western and northern districts of the province indications are that the yield of early pears, while a failure in a number of orchards, will be medium. Late varieties apparently do not give quite as good promise, although a light to medium crop will be general. Taking the province as a whole, both early and late pears, while behind last year, will be a fair crop.

Reports From Ontario Growers

Wentworth County

Winona.—There will not be more than half the winter apples in this section there were last year; the sample will be better. Pears are a very good crop and quite free from fungus. Peaches at Winona and Grimsby are more than half a crop, the quality will be good, the foliage is very healthy. Unsprayed plum orchards are looking very badly. The leaves have dropped, the plums are bare, and will be of little value. Well sprayed orchards are healthy. Grapes have not done well for the last few weeks on account of cool wet weather and black rot, and it is a question if the crop will be much above the average.—(M. Pettit.

Welland County

Fonth.—The apple crop will be very large, fine and clean. Peaches are a failure except a few orchards bordering on Lake Ontario; through the central sections about one-half the peach trees were killed by the severe winter. Pears promise a large crop and a fine sample. Plums are almost a total failure, a large number of the trees having been injured by the winter. Grapes will be a large crop, although the leaf blight has appeared on the thin leaved varieties like Delaware.—(E. Morris.

The Lake Huron District

Walkerton.—The fruit crops in this district in some respects are not as good as last season, and in others they are better. The apple crop, on the whole, is lighter, but the quality is first-class. In some orchards the crop is much better even in quantity than last year. Spys are good; Russets, Greenings, Ben Davis, medium; Baldwins a failure. Early apples medium to good. Prospects for trade are bright. Pears medium. Plums a total failure. The peach trees were all killed by the winter frost. Grapes are medium to good, but are not much grown here.—(A. E. Sherrington.

Simcoe County

Craighurst.—There will be no plums. Early apples are abundant. There will be a fair yield of fall varieties, but winter varieties will

be below the average and far below last year. The quality of early and fall apples promises to be well up to the mark. Winter apples may be a little under sized.—(G. C. Caston.

Lincoln County

St. Catharines.—The early peaches are fairly favorable as to quality, which is not of the best. Healthy trees have a full crop. The season for yellow flesh peaches, including Triumph and Yellow St. John, is about over, and the peaches of the Crawford type are now ready for the market. These will be a light crop. It is not likely the total production of peaches in the Niagara district will be over 25 per cent. of that of last year. Apples of all kinds are fairly heavy all through the district, except one or two varieties, including the Northern Spy. They will be a full crop. Pears are light, Bartletts being the best. The total yield will probably not exceed 50 per cent. of a full crop. Plums, with the exception of the Japanese varieties, are very light. If the growers secure 20 per cent. of a full crop it will be all that can be expected. Black rot has caused considerable trouble and is rapidly extending through the vineyards. Had it not been for this trouble the grape crop would have been unusually heavy and of extremely good quality. It is difficult to estimate the damage that will result from the rot. The majority of the growers have not prepared to deal with the trouble, which requires thorough and energetic treatment. In spite of this trouble, a good crop of grapes is probable.—(W. H. Bunting, Pres. Ont. Fruit Growers' Ass'n.

The Burlington District

Burlington.—Apples are a short crop as compared with '03, probably not more than 50 per cent. Quality good, not much spot; some codling moth in trees thickly laden. Size of apples normal. Pears a fair crop, probably equal to that of last year. Plums are practically nil. I doubt if there are 15 baskets on 1,000 trees in my orchard. The fruit buds must have been destroyed by the severe winter. Peaches very much the same as plums, few to be seen.

Most trees, however, are sound and looking well. Grapes offer well. The crop is exceptionally heavy, standard hardy branches being above the average. Upon the whole, the grape outlook is good.—(A. W. Peart.

Essex County

Leamington.—This is certainly an off year for fruit in Essex county. The acreage of small fruits grown is much less than it was a few years ago, caused chiefly by difficulty in getting the fruit picked. Plums are very light, not enough to supply local demand; the same may be said of grapes. Peach trees that survived the severe winter were considerably injured and dropped most of their fruit, so there are very

few more peaches than will be wanted for local use. Pears are a light crop. Early apples good and of fine quality; winter apples a light crop and poor quality.—J. L. Hillborn.

Grenville County

Maitland.—The apple crop will not be more than 50 per cent. of last year. The fruit is fairly clean and growing fairly well, and gives promise of a large percentage of No. 1 fruit. Injury was sustained in some orchards by hail in July, but careful selection they will not injure the sample. The main crop is Fameuse in this county, only a small percentage of late winter apples being grown. The yield will be light.—(Harold Jones.

Fruit Prospects in the Different Provinces

Nova Scotia

The apple crop of Nova Scotia for export is estimated at upwards of 500,000 barrels as against something over that amount exported last season. The crop in general, however, is considered inferior to that of last year. Generally speaking, the apple crop is an average one, but there will not be as many No. 1 for shipment as last season. Baldwins, Kings, Ribstone and Blenheim are quite generally reported as a full crop. The plum crop will be slightly over . . . of an average crop. Pears rather small, 50 per cent. of an average yield.—(W. S. Blair, Nappan, N. S.

Kentville.—The crop of apples in the King and Annapolis valley will not be as large as estimated in June, and our export will probably be between 4,000 and 5,000 barrels instead of 6,000, as last year. It will be an excellent Baldwin and Blenheim year. Spy and Nonpareil will be a good crop; Nonpareil fairly heavy and somewhat spotted. Gravenstein in the heaviest fruiting districts of Kings county are very spotted, except where thoroughly sprayed. There is more unquestionable evidence this year of the benefits from spraying than ever before, and those who made up their minds last year to dispense with spray pumps will bring them into use next season. The plum crop will be about 40 per cent. of last year; peach crop almost nothing, trees suffering from severe winter; pear crop 40 to 50 per cent of last year.—(Ralph S. Eaton.

Rossway.—The apple crop is rather light here. In looking over the orchards I find a great many trees with very little fruit. A few trees seem to be fairly well filled. There seems to be a lighter crop than last year, and apples seem to be rather small in size. As to plums, there are very few trees in this vicinity, and few plums on the few trees. There are not more than half a dozen bearing pear trees within a dozen miles.—(A. C. Sabeau.

New Brunswick

Bellisle Creek.—There are no large orchards in this province, but quite a large number of

small ones. The prospect for the apple crop is good. The Duchess, Fameuse, Peach, New Brunswick, Yellow Transparent and King are very heavily loaded; the Red Astrachan and some others are not bearing any. The apple crop will be a great deal larger than it was last year; plums also. Very few pear trees here.—(Benj. Crawford.

Fredericton.—The apple crop is better than last year. Many fall and winter varieties are very promising. Late winter apples not much grown, but what there are look well. Plums make no show here this season; pears not much grown. Our orchard promises fully double the crop of last season.—(J. C. Gilman.

Anagance.—The Duchess and Yellow Transparent apples are a full crop; the Alexander, Ben Davis, McIntosh Red, Tolman Sweet, Princess Louise and Sutton's Beauty are a fair crop; the Baldwin and Russets are a failure, and all the other kinds are very light. Plums will not be more than quarter of a crop; no pears worth mentioning in N. B.—(Lester Stocton.

Quebec

West Lambert.—The fruit crop in this province will be much below the average, due, no doubt, to the damage caused by the extreme cold weather last winter. Apple trees are nearly all more or less damaged. Many plum trees were killed outright. Small fruits seem to be about an average crop.—(J. Byrne.

Henrysburg.—The apple crop is a very fine one and free from fungus or spot. There is not going to be such a large crop as people looked for in the forepart of the season. Fameuse crop is looking fine and going to be a medium one. Winter apples are a light crop. Pears not grown to any extent. Plums fine and a full crop. Apple crop much heavier than last year. There will be 12,000 or 15,000 barrels shipped from this part of the province this fall. Apple barrels are so dear there will be thousands of barrels of apples not shipped to market. Barrels are costing us \$40 to \$43 per hundred.—(John Spencer.

Manitoba

Brandon.—Standard apples are not grown to any extent in this province. The more tender varieties of apples were badly injured by last winter's frost, and the hardy kinds are not bearing quite as well as usual. Native varieties of plums under cultivation are well loaded with fruit. These are the most suitable for the northwest, as they are about the only ones that ripen sufficiently early. Small fruits of all kinds are about an average crop; wild fruit is quite scarce.—(C. A. Bedford, Supt. Experimental Farm for Manitoba.

British Columbia

Taken altogether the fruit crop of British Columbia is very good and well above the average. In some districts a few varieties are scarce, but taking the exceptionally dry season into consideration, on the whole, the outlook is extremely promising. In the Okanagan Valley and the district round the Lower Frazer, the chief fruit growing section of British Columbia, the crops of apples, pears and plums are very good, while prunes are a little scarce. In the Boundary country the apple and pear crop is very good, also plums and prunes. At the coast the crop of apples, pears and plums are all very good, with prunes about a quarter crop. In the interior, where fruit is just past the experimental stage and the orchards are beginning to give some return, the crops are again very

good, all round apples and pears being especially fine. The district around Nelson along the shore of the Kootenay river is rapidly forging ahead as a fruit growing district. Taking the province all through the fruit crops in general compare very favorably with last season, more fruit being grown this year, as more trees are coming into bearing.—(H. J. Marks, Nelson, B. C.

Fruit Division Report for August

The fruit division of the Dominion department of agriculture recently issued the following report concerning fruit crop conditions: Prospects have not changed materially since the last report. In southern Ontario the fruit will at least equal the crop of last year in quantity and surpass it in quality. In the Georgian Bay and Lake Ontario district everything points to a medium crop, cleaner than usual. Nova Scotia is developing considerable fungus. Prince Edward Island reports no appreciable change.

Pears of all sorts are a light crop. Plums are a total failure in more than half the orchards and only a light crop anywhere. The prospects for peaches have not improved. Fifty per cent. of the correspondents report a total failure. Black rot has injured the grape crop materially in the larger vineyards, but the crop will still be fair.

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