

## HORTICULTURE.

### HOW THE FRUIT TRADE GROWS.

"This year's shipments of Washington, Idaho and Oregon fruit to the East are the heaviest in the history of the Northwest," said Freight Agent F. D. Gibbs of the Northern Pacific at Spokane last week to a representative of this paper. "The increase in peach shipments amounted to fully 25 per cent. Prune shipments increased 50 per cent, one section alone shipping 15 carloads; apricot shipments were 25 per cent heavier than last year, and from advices we have received the apple shipments will be fully 50 per cent larger than in any preceding year. To what is the increase due? To greater acreage of trees and to wonderfully favorable climatic conditions.

"From what I can gather, the entire country is awakening to its advantages as a fruit growing section, and horticulture is receiving more attention than ever before. During the past and present week the Northern Pacific has been running, and will run, fast through fruit trains of 10 or more cars each daily. These trains are made up here, and the freight comes from the Willamette Valley, Or., and the Snake River country, principally from the latter. There are also shipments from other Eastern Washington points. We have just received figures that warrant me in saying that 100 carloads of fine apples will be shipped East from the country between Spokane, Genesee and Kendrick alone."

"Our road is doing a larger fruit carrying business at present than ever before," said C. G. Dixon, of the Great Northern. "We are running three through fruit trains of 15 cars apiece for Portland each week. These trains pass through Spokane Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays, and make the distance between Portland and St. Paul in the maximum time of 120 hours. The shipments are gathered from the orchards in the Hood River country, Walla Walla, Snake River, Wenatchee and points adjacent to Spokane. The shipments have been arriving in prime condition and are distributed from St. Paul throughout the entire East."

"The O. R. & N. Company is doing a larger business in fruit handling than ever before," said Joseph Campbell, of that road. "Two carloads of fruit are being brought in daily for the Spokane market alone, and the through cars for the Eastern cities come in in solid trains. Prices are satisfactory to grower and merchant."—Review.

### THE QUESTION OF SPRAYING.

A realizing sense of the necessity of the seasonable use of the spray pump is being deeply impressed upon the fruit growers of the Northwest just at this time, as they see condemned in the principal markets shipment after shipment of infected fruit. There was a good deal of lagging throughout the spring and early summer on the part of a very large number of our growers, in regard to the application of proper emulsions for the destruction of insect pests, and as a consequence the production and quality have been seriously affected. The fruit growers took a rest this year, but the scale and the aphid have been having a merry old time, and the codlin moth has been spinning holes in the fruit and the borer has been scuttling the trunks. A more systematic effort is to be made next year. The tree that bears scrubby fruit and that is not worth pruning and spraying and watching over will be cut down and used to cook the steak from the scrub cow that was eating her head off in the dairy. As J. C. Gorsuch, a fruit grower of Vashon, remarked to the editor the other day, it would be the greatest blessing to the fruit industry if condemnation proceedings were instituted against every tree that bore scrub fruit in the state. We fear that a pretty good sized percentage of the trees would fall at the axman's stroke, but if they are not profitable to the owner, take up his land and harbor dangerous insect foes, it would be of the greatest benefit.

### CHICAGO FRUIT REGULATIONS.

The sale, or offer for sale, or possession for sale, in the City of Chicago, of any fruit, berries or vegetables in short-weight packages; or in packages not distinctly marked with the weight or measure of the contents in pounds, quarts, pecks or bushels, as the case may be; or packed so as to

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