

whether late infection may take place or not. Therefore it would be as well for growers, especially in the warmer districts of the Dominion, to keep a good lookout for the eggs or newly hatched grubs of this pest, and, if necessary, to take measures to protect their crops of late apples or pears from infection.

*Leech.*

This pest, if the necessary steps have not been taken to keep it under control, will continue to do serious injury to foliage until quite late in the season. The result will be that buds which should be plump and vigorous will show imperfect development, from which affected trees will suffer during the following season. Spraying with arsenate of lead should be continued until no further signs of the pest can be noticed.

GRADING AND PACKING.

The necessity for the careful grading and packing of fruit cannot be too strongly impressed upon growers. Although there has been great improvement in this respect of late years, and many growers realize the value of carefully selecting, grading, and packing their fruit, still it is even now no uncommon thing to come across consignments badly graded and packed, and more or less infected with pests and diseases of various kinds.

This is much to be regretted, as the returns to the consignors can never be satisfactory, while the marketing of inferior qualities must to a greater or less extent affect the selling-value of the better class of fruit.

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As an explanation for the rapid extension of the trade to Germany, Government fruit experts state that the market facilities at Hamburg are much superior to London. In the German centre every case is opened for inspection, but at Covent Garden only one case of a line of apples is opened, and as a result deception is easily possible.—*Australasian.*

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The spirit of co-operation is spreading among Nelson fruitgrowers. On the Motueka side of the Moutere Hills many of the growers have combined to form what is known as "The Moutere Fruitgrowers, Limited," whilst at Stoke, on the Nelson side of the hills, has been formed "The Stoke Fruit Distributing Company." It is gratifying to know that these properly registered trading companies have as one of their main objectives the bringing of the grower and the consumer into closer touch.