

Conditions of the Fruit Crop.

The fruit crop report issued August 15th, by the Fruit Division of the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, says that the wet weather has caused a luxuriant growth and the weather has been very favorable to the cover crops but has induced fungus diseases to a certain extent. Apple scab is reported from practically all the apple sections and it is safe to say there will be a much larger proportion of No. 3 fruit this year than usual. Hail has done serious injury to fruit in the Nelson and Kootenay district of British Columbia.

No marked change has taken place in the prospects for the apple crop. The weather upon the whole has been favorable except so far as the damp weather has induced fungus. Nearly all correspondents report the growth as excellent, larger indeed than usual. There does not appear to be any exceptional complaint with reference to insects. The general average for the Dominion starts at 69 per cent. for early apples, 65 per cent. for fall apples, and 61 per cent. for winter apples, or an average for the Dominion of 65 per cent.

Pears are good in the inland valleys of British Columbia, but rather light in Easter Canada.

Plums are light in the West, below average in Eastern Canada, with the exception of Nova Scotia.

Peach trees which withstood the winter in British Columbia are well loaded. Ontario has a medium crop, which is likely to be largely taken by the canners.

Grapes will be a good crop, of large fruit, and tomatoes give prospect of a very large crop although the acreage is small and not sufficient to supply the demand.

The fruit prospects for Europe are below average, while conditions in United States are fair, the crop being evenly distributed, and slightly above the average in those states competing with Canadian apples.

Buying is reported as not quite so keen as in former years, but market conditions on the whole are fairly reassuring, a bumper crop is sure in the American Pacific States.

Ontario Crop Bulletin.

The Ontario Department of Agriculture has issued a statement of crop conditions under date of August 12th. Fall wheat is reported as patchy and has ripened unevenly, delaying harvesting, making it two weeks later than usual. Showery weather caused sprouting in the shock in some districts, but the bulk of the grain is of fair quality, while the straw was of medium length, with more rust than usual. Yields range from 10 to 35 bushels per acre, the poorest being along Lake Erie.

Spring wheat, not extensively grown, short in straw, well-filled and a good average crop. Wild Goose variety most in favor.

Barley will show a fair yield of plump grain in nearly every county. The straw is short, and harvest comparatively late, with wet weather hindering in many districts.

Oats are a first-class crop, heads well-filled and straw clean. Harvesting began August 5th, but owing to late ripening will not finish until the end of the month.

Rye is not extensively grown, but yield and quality will be good.

Peas are reported much better this year than during the last few years. Yields vary from 5 to 30 bushels per acre. Northern Ontario sends very favorable reports.

Beans promise an average crop, although late.

Hay gave a fair crop the Province over, with timothy a little better than clover. All new seedings, alfalfa included, promise well.

The corn will likely be the poorest in years. Fields are generally thin and unpromising, owing to wet, cold weather. In some of the Western counties the white grub has done much injury to this crop.

The tobacco crop is also poor, owing to wet weather, wire worms and grubs.

Potatoes are reported as showing prospects of a heavy yield, especially in the Western counties. Beetles were not as troublesome this year, and a little blight and rot are reported.

Conditions are now more favorable for the root crop. Mangels and sugar beets are doing better than turnips and are likely to be a good crop.

There will be a fair yield of fall apples, but the better class of winter varieties will be rather scarce. San Jose scale and caterpillars are still complained of, but very little mention is made of scab. Pears will range from poor to fair in yield, and the same may be said of peaches, one

correspondent suggestively saying of the latter, "Good where cared for." Plums will be a fair crop, and the yield of cherries upon the whole has been a good one. Grapes, as usual, give promise of a large yield, although considered a little late in growth this season.

Pastures and Live Stock.—Pastures have greatly revived, and at present they are green and inviting. Live stock are in a good healthy condition. Cattle are at present in brisk demand at good prices. Fodder supplies will not be abundant, but careful feeders will have a sufficiency in most localities. The silo is more and more getting to be regarded as the key to the feeding situation. Straw is more plentiful than last year.

Farm Labor.—Farm labor is reported to be as scarce or scarcer than ever, and the quality of much that is offering is unsatisfactory. Farmers are trying to meet the shortage of help by using larger implements and other improved machinery, interchanging labor with neighbors, and doing more grazing. Wages range from \$1.25 to \$1.50 per day, and from \$20 to \$40 per month with board.

Choice Live Stock at Edmonton.

The live stock display at Edmonton's 1912 exhibition was one of the choicest that has been seen in Western Canada. Dairy cattle were much stronger than has been seen at Western exhibitions, with the exception of Calgary, while beef cattle surpassed in numbers and quality the line-ups of all previous years. Sheep and swine showed an increase in numbers and the horse classes are stronger each year. Another feature was an extensive horticultural display, consisting of fruit from British Columbia and vegetables of all kinds from the vicinity of Edmonton.

The horse exhibit was made up of Clydesdales, Percherons, Belgians and Suffolk Punches, besides the lighter breeds. John Bright, Myrtle St., Ont., and R. E. Drennan, Kenora, placed the awards.

Clydesdales.—The aged stallion and aged filly classes were especially strong, but the classes for younger stock were not so well filled. There were twelve aged stallions forward and eleven aged fillies. Awards—Aged stallions, 1, W. C. Sutherland, on Revelanta's Heir; 2, P. A. Switzer, on Royal Diadem; 3, P. M. Bredt & Sons, on Royal Robin; 4, Davis & Morton, on Ben Turret; 5, Western Canada Land Co., on Culinan. 3-year-olds, 1, Vanstone & Rogers, on Red Cap. Two-year-olds, 1, C. McLaughlin, on Excelsior; 2, Charles Ellet, on Quality's Marquis. Brood mares, 1, R. J. Bray, on Irene. Aged mares, 1, R. J. Bray, on Pirene; 2 and 3, P. M. Bredt & Sons, on Dunrobin Pearlina and Nannie Grenwell; 4, Sutherland, on Bonnie Craigieland; 5, P. A. Switzer, on Jeanie Armour. Two-year-olds, 1, Sutherland, on Craigie Belle; 2, P. M. Bredt & Sons, on Queen Alexandra. Champion stallion, Revelanta's Heir. Champion filly, Craigie Belle. Canadian-bred champion filly, Pirene. Best draft team, P. M. Bredt & Sons.

Percherons.—In number of entries and quality of exhibits this breed showed better than on previous occasions. Aged stallions, 1, Geo. Lane, on Perkisko Institute; 2, Walter Spore, Jr., on Epitane; 3, R. J. Manson, on Igame; 4, M. Boyd, on Gourgault; 5, W. C. Henderson, on Morsie. Geo. Lane had the only entries in aged mares, showing four good individuals. Lane also won the class for three get of sire and exhibited a fine six-horse team of registered stock. Lane took both championships.

Belgians were shown by W. C. Henderson and A. Haazen, Regina, and St. Cyr Villettard, Beaumont. Henderson got first and second in aged stallions. Haazen got first in three-year-olds and two-year-olds. Villettard first in three-year-old fillies. Haazen won everything in two-year-old fillies, and Henderson's stallion, Paul de Montignies, was made champion.

A good exhibit of Suffolk Punches was made by Baker & Hunt, of Fort Saskatchewan.

CATTLE.

Beef cattle were judged by John Gardhouse, of Highfield, Ont., and dairy cattle by G. H. Hutton, Lacombe, Alta.

Shorthorns.—Competition in this breed was good, but lighter than at other Western exhibitions this year. J. H. Melick, Edmonton, P. M. Bredt & Sons, Edenwold, G. J. Sayer, of Illinois, and H. A. Kidney, of Edmonton, were chief exhibitors. Sayer's Uxor Prince headed the aged bull class, and Melick's Pride of Albion the senior yearlings. These two bulls fought it out for championship honors, the aged bull being senior champion, the younger bull junior, and finally grand champion. In the female classes, Sayer's Fair Start 2nd was first in three-year-olds, Melick's Maxwellton Gloster 3rd headed the two-year-old class, Sayer's Maxwellton Missie the senior yearling class, and Melick's Clover Leaf Dorothy the senior calf class. Sayer's Fair

Start 2nd was senior and grand champion, and Melick's Clover Leaf Dorothy junior and reserve.

Herefords.—This breed was especially strong and made up for the beef breeds what was lost in the Shorthorn classes. L. O. Clifford, Oshawa, Ont., Simon Downie & Sons, Carstairs, Alta., G. H. Cresswell, Edmonton, Alta., and J. A. Chapman, Hayfield, Man., were the chief exhibitors. Clifford took the large end of the money, but in most classes had to fight for it. He got senior and grand championship on his aged bull Refiner and senior, junior and grand championship female on Miss Brae 26th and Miss Brae 34th.

Aberdeen-Angus.—J. D. McGregor, of Brandon, O. V. Battles, of Iowa, and Jas. Bowman, Guelph, Ont., fought it out again with honors distributed much as upon previous occasions. McGregor's aged bull Leroy 3rd of Meadow Brook was senior and grand champion, and Bowman's Elm Park Beauty Prince junior and reserve. McGregor's noted cow Violet 3rd of Congash was senior and grand champion and Battle's Myra of Rosemere junior champion female.

Of the dairy breeds Ayrshires were out in greatest numbers. In this breed competition was keen between the herd of P. D. McArthur, North Georgetown, Que., and several Western herds. J. J. Richards & Sons, Red Deer, received the male championship on Netherall Douglas Swell, McArthur's Whitehall Freetrader was reserve. McArthur's aged cow Amaryllys of the Willows was made champion female, and Richards' heifer Homeward Cinderella reserve champion.

In Jerseys, B. H. Bull & Son's, Brampton, Ont., cleaned up most of the money in strong competition.

In the swine pens competition was keen throughout, and especially in Berkshires and Yorkshires, while most of the sheep classes were closely contested, and on the whole the entire live stock exhibit at Edmonton outclassed that of former years.

Death of Professor John Craig.

In the sudden death at his summer home, Siasconsett, of Prof. John Craig, the New York State College of Agriculture, Ithaca, loses the distinguished head of its horticultural department. Of Scottish origin, he was born at Lakefield, Quebec, in 1864, receiving his education at the Montreal High School, Iowa College of Agriculture, and Cornell University. After spending some time in orcharding in Quebec, he became horticulturist at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, 1890 to 1897. He next became horticulturist at the Iowa State College for two years, taking up extension teaching at Cornell University in 1902, and since 1903 has been horticulturist at that institution. He was chairman of the section of horticulture and botany in the American Association of Agricultural Colleges and Experimental Stations and shared in the work of the American League of Civic Improvement and was a member of several leading horticultural organizations.

Death of Professor Scovell.

The death is announced of Professor M. A. Scovell, Director of the Kentucky Experiment Station, and Dean of the College of Agriculture, who passed away at his home at Lexington on August 15th, after an illness of two weeks of inflammation of the heart. Dr. Scovell had been a most diligent worker for the advancement of agriculture, particularly in its dairy development, and the pure food movement had no better balanced advocate. He was a sincere champion of the Jersey breed of cattle, and the dairy herd established at the College was exclusively of Jersey blood. His services as a judge were frequently sought by prominent fair associations in the States, and last year he officiated acceptably in this capacity at the Canadian National Exhibition at Toronto. He was a man of kind and gentle disposition and was held in the highest respect and esteem by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.

The Ontario Department of Agriculture is arranging plans for the introduction of pure-bred live stock (cattle, sheep and swine) in New Ontario by the formation of small local associations of settlers who will be supplied with male animals under certain conditions. The idea is to develop in given districts breeds or type of cattle and other stock best suited to the local conditions and needs. Some Shorthorns have already been placed on the demonstration farm at Monteith, and a milking strain sire is to be secured from the Old Country. This autumn a number of hogs will be placed on the farm and sheep at a later date.

The Dominion Dairy Station to be operated on commercial lines at Finch, Ont., was opened for the reception of milk on August 23rd.