

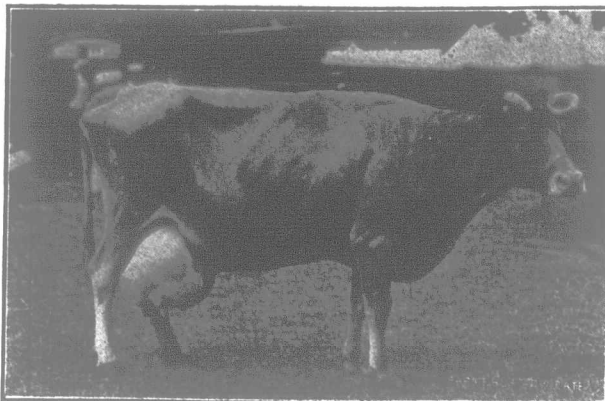
Every cow in herd 16 tests over 4.0 fat, an excellent record for 25 animals for the 30 days ending July 27th. Number of cows tested, 299; average yield of milk, 555 pounds; average test, 4.0; average yield of fat, 22.5 pounds.

The figures giving the result of the second test (30 days ending August 15th) at St. Ambroise (Riviere a l'Ours), in the Lake St. John, Que., group of associations, shows that, while the average test of all the cows is good, 4.0 per cent, the general yield of milk and butter-fat is far too low, compared with other cows in this section. Green feed for these hot months, and the use of pure-bred sires of good dairy families, would augment the milk production, and tend to fix the habit of a longer milking period. Number of cows tested, 60; average yield of milk, 421 pounds; average test, 4.0; average yield of fat, 16.8 pounds.

The report of the third test at Lotbiniere, Que. (30 days ending August 15th), shows the average per cent. of fat of all the cows tested remains the same, 3.8, for the three periods. It will be noticed that the average yield of fat per cow in herd 18 is less than half that of herd 8. Feed liberally, select the best, grade up, and double the average production inside four years, should be the aim here. Number of cows tested, 150; average yield of milk, 545 pounds; average test, 3.8; average yield of fat, 20.9 pounds. Highest average for a herd, 772 pounds milk; highest individual milk yield, 940 pounds; lowest, 130 pounds.

Tring Butter and Milking Trials.

At the annual one-day butter-test and milking trials, at Tring, England, on August 8th, eighty-two cows competed, and in only three cases did



Grade Jersey Cow, "Doctor."

Twenty-five years old; winner of many first and champion prizes in English milking trials, including first at Tring, last month, yielding in one day 55 lbs. 8 ozs. milk and 1 lb. 12½ ozs. butter, 104 days after calving.

the milk fall below the standard, viz., 3 per cent. fat on the average of the two milkings.

In the test for cows of any breed or cross, not exceeding 900 pounds, live weight, 40 competing, Shorthorns, cross-breds and Jerseys, the first prize, of £20, was won by the grade Jersey cow, "Doctor," 25 years old, whose yield of milk, 104 days after calving, was 55 pounds 8 ounces, and of butter 1 pound 12½ ounces. A portrait of this grand old matron is given on this page, and her record is a remarkable one for a cow of her age, but her conformation and udder development proclaim her a milk-making machine of extraordinary capacity. She is owned by Captain Neil-Smith, whose Jersey cow Geraldine, 5 years old, won the second prize, yielding, 152 days after calving, 49 pounds 14 ounces milk, and 2 pounds 4½ ounces of butter in the 24 hours.

In the class for cows of any breed or cross, exceeding 900 pounds, live weight, 49 competing (Shorthorns, South Devons, Guernseys and Jerseys), the first prize, £20 and Gold Medal, went to Mr. R. Barclay's Jersey cow Poppy, 8 years old, whose yield, 122 days after calving, was 47 pounds 2 ounces milk, and 2 pounds 13½ ounces butter, a ratio, pounds of milk to pounds of butter, 16.66. Mr. D. Kelly's 5-year-old Shorthorn cow Muriel, winning first prize in the milking trial, whose live weight was 1,367 pounds, yielded, 128 days after calving, 58 pounds 12 ounces of milk, and 2 pounds 1¼ ounces of butter, ratio 28.31.

GARDEN & ORCHARD.

Commercial Fruit-growing in Ontario.

The following paragraphs are extracts from an address delivered by Linus Woolverton before the New York Fruit-growers' Convention, held at Syracuse, N. Y., August 30 and 31:

Commercial fruit-growing in Ontario has developed within the last forty years. It was on my father's farm, which I now occupy, and about the year 1860, that the first large peach orchard was planted in the Niagara district. It was about four acres in extent, and consisted of such old-fashioned varieties as Early Purple, Early York, Old Mixon, Royal George, Sweetwater, Morris White, and some others the names of which I do not remember.

All varieties paid well in those days. I remember the first Hales' Early peaches I grew for market. Being on young, vigorous trees, they grew to a large size, and took on beautiful rich-crimson cheeks. They sold readily for about \$3.00 a crate holding less than a bushel, while the Early Crawfords brought still more money.

Such early successes aroused in me the greatest enthusiasm; so that, when my college course was completed, and my father offered me one hundred acres of choice land in the garden of Ontario, my first ambition was to devote every foot of it to the growing of fruit. I did so, and during the succeeding years, until the present, I have been learning many lessons, some of them at considerable cost.

GARDEN CULTURE FOR FRUIT PLANTATIONS.

I think that the first lesson we learned was that the fruit plantation, whether orchard or small fruit, needs garden culture, and not field culture.

Forty years ago I planted fifty acres of my 100-acre fruit farm to apples and pears, with the idea of seeding that much down after a few years, and leaving it to grass. I thought to myself, "Now, in a few years I shall have little or nothing to do on that fifty acres, except to pick the fruit and pocket the money." It was a dream. In the course of twenty years my eyes were opened, to find that I had no fruit to pick and no money to pocket off that fifty acres. I also found out that, instead of being relieved of work on that fifty acres, I must give those apple and pear trees as much cultivation and as much manure as the potato ground or the cornfield.

PRUNING NECESSARY.

I had another foolish notion. I thought and even advocated in our Fruit-growers' meetings, that orchard trees should be allowed to take their natural habit of growth, with as little pruning as possible. After twenty years, I learned that orchard trees need judicious pruning every year, to limit the number of fruit buds, and a most careful and systematic thinning out of the whole top, lest the tree shade its own fruit-buds and thus prevent fruitfulness. That sunshine is necessary to the formation of fruit-buds is proven in the case of orchard trees growing near to large forest trees. Such trees give no fruit. So, also, when the outside limbs of a tree are not thinned, the inner branches are barren, or, if they yield any fruit, it is of the poorest quality.

So, I was awakened from my dreams of growing cash on trees without labor, and found I had

all work and no play before me, if I would have good fruit and a decent income.

I changed my methods. I hired more men and bought more horses. I cultivated, pruned, manured, and then I got good fruit and good prices. But the opening of our great Northwest during the past ten years has brought up the labor problem. Our young men are all going there to take up farms; our workmen are doing the same. Harvest excursions from Toronto to Winnipeg for \$12 each, and high wages in the harvest fields, are robbing us of our hands to such an extent that we are obliged to pay extravagant wages for the cultivation, pruning and harvesting of our fruit plantations. And even high wages does not make men, so that a large fruit farm is like a "white elephant," the owner is puzzled what to do with it; whereas, with a small fruit farm which the owner can handle almost with his own hands, there is profit and satisfaction. Some people almost always "bite off more than they can chew," and I confess that, under present conditions, I find myself one of the number, and often wish for



An Orchard Meeting on Prince Edward Island.

At the home of Jos. Berry, Urbanville (French settlement). Conducted by Richard Burke, Dominion Fruit Inspector.

a smaller-sized fruit farm, rather than a larger one.

A great mistake in the case of many of the orchards planted some years ago in Ontario, was in the varieties planted. I remember thinking that it did not matter much how many varieties were in the orchard, so long as they were good varieties. But when I began to export to Great Britain in car lots, and had to fill the car with perhaps a dozen varieties of apples, and often several barrels of mixed varieties, and got good returns for the straight cars of any one good variety, and lower prices for the mixed lots, I saw the mistake, and learned another lesson. It was that, in planting a commercial orchard, each variety should be planted in such quantity that the owner can make up car lots of that variety, either by himself or in combination with his neighbors.

STANDARDS OF PACKING.

Among the later lessons learned by the fruit-growers in Ontario is the importance of properly grading and packing our fruit. Twenty, or even ten, years ago we had no standard for a No. 1 apple. A buyer in Chicago or Winnipeg might want a carload of No. 1 Canadian Spy apples, but could not agree with the seller in price until he could see the goods; the buyer would not like to ship his carload without a definite price, and hence sales were blocked, or the goods were shipped at the mercy of the buyer. Or, if a contract were made at a fixed price, and the goods were disappointing, who was to decide whether they were according to contract? So we have learned that it pays to select and grade our apples, and, indeed, all our fruit, according to certain standard grades. In accordance, therefore, with the wish of the growers, a Fruit Marks Act has been passed, and subsequently amended, defining three grades of apples.

The Act would be inoperative without the Government inspectors. These men are authorized

to fine or imprison shippers of goods falsely marked. They do not attempt to inspect whole shipments, nor even parts of all shipments, but they are privileged to come down unexpectedly upon lots of fruit, packed and marked, for sale wherever they may be, to open such packages as they please, and take speedy action, if necessary. This is preferable to any attempt to inspect entire shipments—a thing that would be wholly impracticable.

The fact that one's packages are always subject to inspection, whether in one's own packing-house, at the railway station, at the seaport, or even on their arrival in Great Britain, by a Canadian inspector there, is proving an effectual guard against fraudulent packing; besides, the buyer has more confidence in buying, knowing he cannot

be held to a contract should he be able to prove the packing was fraudulent.

MARKETING—CUT OUT THE COMMISSION MEN.

And now I came to the last, but not least important, of the lessons I shall speak of, which we in Ontario have learned about the fruit industry. It is that fruit should be sold by the grower at the point of shipment, and as little as possible put into the hands of the commission agent. We have been overstocking the commission men and demoralizing our markets. You all know the system—the attractive prices current, sent you to secure your consignments; the general rush, the glut, the low prices. I am not blaming commission merchants; they are indispensable; but our present methods are faulty. We have no system in the distribution of fruit. Growers ship indis-