

even to prevent the air from drying the material. The "hands" are pressed together by kneeling on them while packing, and when the piles have reached a convenient height, say 3 to 4 feet, they are weighted with heavy planks on top so as to press the material down as compact as possible. The pile is then covered with some fabric or material such as blankets or sacking to prevent the drying of the exposed parts, and in this condition it is allowed to remain about a month during which time the curing or "sweating" process goes on by which when properly attended to the leaves acquire a uniform colour. The bulking is followed by an increase of temperature in the pile, which should be watched, and when a thermometer placed in the centre of the heap indicates a temperature of 100 to 110 Fahr., or when the heat is uncomfortable to the hand when introduced, the "bulk" should be opened and rearranged so that the outer and upper tiers may be brought to the centre. In this way the heat is lessened and the curing process proceeds evenly and uniformly throughout the pile. When the tobacco is thoroughly cured the "bulk" is opened and the material arranged more loosely and gradually cooled when the tobacco will be ready for market. When disposed of, it is usually packed in bales of about 100 lbs. each, firmly pressed together and enclosed in sacking.

VARIETIES.

Among the earliest and best yielding varieties tested at the Experimental Farm are : White Burley, Connecticut Seed Leaf, Pennsylvania Seed Leaf, Pryor Yellow, Climax, Yellow Mammoth, Oronoko Yellow, Safrano, Brazilian and Canadian. In 1896 the White Burley grown at the Experimental Farm was matured and partly harvested, when a sharp frost occurred in September, which greatly injured the later sorts. The White Burley is much grown in the Province of Quebec, and is also the variety most extensively cultivated in western Ontario. The Connecticut Seed Leaf stands probably next in public favour, and is well spoken of generally. Messrs. Walker Sons have found the White Burley and Connecticut Seed Leaf the most profitable varieties to grow, and think that a fair average of the yield of these varieties, taking one season with another, would be about 1,800 lbs. of cured tobacco per acre. Dr. G. LaRoque, late M.P. for Chambly County, Quebec, in his excellent little book on "*Culture et Préparation du Tabac*" gives the crop of the different varieties grown in Quebec as ranging from 900 to 1,500 lbs. per acre, while Mr. M. G. Bruner of Olinda, Ontario, estimates the crop about Leamington at from 1,000 to 1,100 lbs. per acre. Where the same varieties are grown the yield in every case will depend much on the quality of the land and the quantity of manure which has been used. In the small experimental plots at the Central Experimental Farm, the weight of crop has been estimated in different seasons from about 1,500 to 2,500 lbs. or more per acre.