

Aid Given by Experts.

Following up the work of the local stations, a central horticultural experiment station has been established by the Government at Jordan Harbor in the Niagara district to experiment, not only with varieties of fruit and vegetables, but with soils, methods of culture, the improvement of old varieties and the originating of new ones. The Ontario Fruit Growers' Association, the Niagara Peninsula Fruit Growers' Association, and the Ontario Vegetable Growers' Association are other leading organizations for the purpose of assisting growers and safeguarding their commercial interests. The report of the Ontario Associations, published annually by the Government, contains information of value to the grower on all matters pertaining to his business.

Some Striking Figures.

There are 16,760,000 fruit trees now yielding product in Ontario, while the annual average value of the Ontario fruit industry is \$7,511,611; the capital value, \$55,126,071; and the acreage 307,774.

From 700,000 to 1,000,000 barrels of Ontario apples are exported annually, chiefly to Great Britain, and from 200,000 to 300,000 barrels to the Western Provinces. The report of the Ontario Bureau of Industries shows that the yield of apples in one year from the orchards of Ontario totalled 35,006,991 bushels.

*31 Is. 114.

The total number of acres devoted to the growing of small fruits in 1908 was 11,199.

Growth has been Natural.

Ontario's fruit growing industry is one that has grown up naturally, without any attempt at exploitation, as soil and climate conditions have made the suitability of the country for this purpose self-evident. It will be interesting, however, to note individually, some of the kinds of fruit grown, and the results attained by industrious and enterprising growers.

Estimates on a Fair Basis.

The practical man looks at results. Upon what has been done a reliable estimate for the future can be formed. What has Ontario fruit growing accomplished in figures?

As in all lines of human endeavor the amount of money to be made in the business depends largely upon the man who is running it. It is not the policy of the Ontario Department of Agriculture to present the "exceptional" figures. This leads to an expectation of such results as are seldom realized. Frequently a small sum wisely expended may bring wonderful results, but it is not safe to take such instances as a basis for general results.

Ontario presents estimates on average results, on statements supplied by those who have embarked in the business under conditions similar to those that will confront