

## NOTES FROM THE FRUIT EXPERIMENT STATIONS.

THE following reports from the various Fruit Experiment Stations give a good general idea of the outlook for fruit throughout the province:

### FROM WENTWORTH.

In reply to your enquiry with regard to fruit prospects, I may say everything looks very promising. In fact, there is entirely too much fruit set. Unless nature does some thinning a great many orchards will be overloaded. The fruit and foliage never looked healthier than at present, not the first appearance of fungus on either fruit or leaf, not even on Flemish Beauty pears, and very little trouble from insects, except curculio, which has been pretty bad on plums, but nearly all varieties need thinning. If we get rain for the berries from the present indications there will be a great abundance of everything in the way of fruit.

Winona.

M. PETTIT.

### FROM BRUCE.

The prospects for fruit in this district are only fair; we have had some very hard frost. Apples promise very good so far, and trees are healthy and free of scab. Pears promise fair, and plums very good crop, but they were damaged some by a very heavy wind, rain and hail storm on May the 28th. Cherries will be a light crop, as are also red and black currants. Raspberries promise to be fair, and strawberries a good crop.

Walkerton.

A. E. SHERRINGTON.

### FROM SOUTH SIMCOE.

Apples have set a large crop of fruit. Pears bloomed sparingly with me, and there will be a light crop of fruit. Japan plums

will also be scarce; indeed, all varieties failed to bloom. Common sour cherries have set a nice crop; my Dyehouse are nil. Strawberries promise a large crop now that the late cool spell is over. We had a light frost one or two nights last week, but I cannot see that any harm has been done.

The late dry spell, just at planting time, which here was a little later than usual, owing to the plants having made little or no growth till after the 24th, has been hard on the spring set plants; indeed, there will be a shortage in next year's supply, as many of the plants have died.

The native varieties of gooseberries, such as Pearl and Josselyn, have set a nice crop, but the foreign varieties, owing evidently to the scourging they got with the mildew last season, have not only failed to bear, but nearly every bush is dead or partly so. Columbia and Whitesmith have stood the winter the best.

Shaffer raspberry winter killed badly, while Columbia came through the winter sound to the tips.

Nantyr.

S. SPILLETT.

### FROM ONTARIO COUNTY.

The present prospect for fruit of all kinds was never better in this section. The fine sunny weather at blooming time had a very beneficial effect in aiding the fruit to set well and many varieties both of apples and pears will require thinning severely to get large samples. Almost every tree planted in 1896 and 1897 will have fruit on this season, and the fruit is fully one week in advance of former years. This is the eighth year our Spies have loaded in succession, although