



FIG. 1938. ONTARIO LADIES' COLLEGE.

has been found in the neighborhood of Whitby. Last week I received a basket of mushrooms from a friend, containing two specimens, in which I felt greatly interested. One of these was a white gilled mushroom called the *Lepiota nancinoides*, an edible species just about as highly prized as the well known pink gilled mushroom, *Agaricus campestris*, and yet so much alike in its gills and cap the deadly white *Amanita*, that it is desirable to devote at least one article to a clear and definite account of the well marked peculiarities of the whole *Amanita* class. I have been pleased to learn that the honored President of the Fruit Growers' Association has become an interested student of micology, and that he has had the good fortune of gathering a

large puff ball and practically testing its esculent properties, and that he has done me and the readers of this journal the favor of having this magnificent "fruit" photographed to illustrate this article. On this account I shall begin with the puff ball. Without attempting to discuss this subject in a thorough or exhaustive manner, I would say that the puff ball belongs to the large class of plants known as Fungi, to which also belong the rust, the smut, the mould, the yeast plant, the bacteria, etc. It belongs also to the division *Gasteromycetes*, or stomach fungi, so called because the hymenium or spore bearing surface is enclosed in a more or less spherical case called the peridium, which ruptures at maturity and expels the spores in the form