

THE FRUIT CROP

APPLES FINE IN SOME PARTS, SCABBY IN OTHERS—
PLUMS AND PEARS A LIGHT YIELD—PEACHES HEAVY

OUR excellent contemporary the Sun has been making some recent inquiries regarding the fruit crop, which goes to substantiate the correctness of our tabular statement in July number, as follows:

DROPPING REPORTED

T. H. Race, of the Recorder, and a director of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association, writing from Mitchell, says: "The prospects for apples throughout this section are good. We are looking for rather more than ordinary crop if the promise at the present time holds out to a fulfilment. I notice, however, that with some varieties a heavy drop has been going on since the hot days of the past week began. This may be somewhat owing to the change of temperature, and may prove beneficial, as it was noticed that some varieties were setting very heavily, and a few apples dropped while the cool, wet weather lasted. If the drop proves only normal, the size of the remaining fruit will be better, and the crop will be a better one than we had in either of the last two years. Some farmers are reporting that the Spys have not set well, but on close examination I find there is quite enough fruit set to make a good crop, though it is as yet owing to the cool weather too small to be readily seen. The Spy has, however, been shyer in setting than most other varieties. So far as I have seen there has been little systematic spraying owing to the continued wet weather, but notwithstanding this, there has not been so much damage done by the codling

moth as in other years. It is too early to speak of fungus diseases, such as scab or black knot, so far as apples are concerned. The latter trouble is showing on the pear crop."

IN THE BANNER COUNTY

D. J. Nesbitt, writing from Brighton, the centre of the great Northumberland apple district, says that the prospect for the crop there is good, the yield promising fully equal to that of 1900. The apples will be quite clean, as there are no insect or fungus enemies except on the Snows; these latter will be somewhat spoiled. "The apples are falling off to a considerable extent," he adds. "Baldwins and Spys are going to be the best crop with us, but all kinds are fairly well loaded."

Wm. Rickard, M.P.P., of Newcastle, speaking from Durham, a close rival to Northumberland as an apple producer, says: "Apples at the beginning of the season were, generally speaking, very thick on the trees, but a great many have since fallen. In some instances the crop has actually been left thin. This may be the best all round, as the crop generally promises to be a good one."

ANOTHER BIG APPLE CENTRE

A. Gifford, of Meaford, writing from the center of the magnificent Georgian Bay fruit district, says: "Apples constitute the most important fruit crop in our section. It is too early to say just how they will turn out. Moreover, there is a great variation in the crops on adjoining farms,