

THE FRUIT CROP.

examination, I observe that branches, from which dead spurs have been cut, have the bark discolored for some distance up and down from the spot where the cut was made, and when cut through, the pith or core is dark, as if the disease was extending up the limb. I am not supplied with any magnifying glasses. Some of my neighbors are troubled in like manner. Kindly diagnose if you can and much oblige

JOHN S. J. WATSON,
Rockingham.

The trouble is doubtless due to the apple blight, which is identical with the well-known pear blight. In the eastern parts of the continent apple blight is less prevalent than it is in the west. It is caused by bacteria, called by scient-

ists *Micrococcus amylovorus*. It is most prevalent in hot seasons, especially if also moist. The germs are believed to enter the plant through the blossoms, and also at ends of tender twigs, or in spots in the bark injured either by the hot sun, or the severe cold; in such cases the blight is commonly known as "Sun scald," although the sun only gave rise to conditions favorable for the entrance of blight.

Some varieties are less liable to blight than others, and it is well to consider this in planting an orchard, especially in those places where blight is known to be troublesome.

* The Fruit Crop. *

St. Lawrence District.

SIR,—The apple crop in this district has changed very little since my report last June, but the quality will be very poor, in unsprayed orchards, and only medium to good in those sprayed. The fruit in many cases being badly formed, owing no doubt to imperfect fertilization of the blossom.

Fungus is still making rapid growth on both fruit and foliage. A fair estimate would be: Apples, 25% of a full crop, or about one-half average. Pears, too few to make an estimate; not many grown. Plums, none. Grapes, over average; not many grown.

HAROLD JONES.

Cataraqui.

SIR,—The apple crop in this district is under average; quality very good. Grapes, average; quality good. No peaches, and very few pears or plums, grown in this district.

GEORGE NICOL.

Victoria County.

SIR,—Your postal card of 14th inst. duly received. I quite agree with your statement that the prospects for the apple crop have materially changed since the last published report.

The prospects at present are, that the apple crop will be less than one-half of average, but good to very good in quality. Pears, Clapp's Favorite and Flemish Beauty much over average and of excellent quality. Bart-

lett, average in both quantity and quality. Peaches are not grown here. Plums, we have none this season. Grapes, under average in quantity; vines looking well; fruit nearly full size, but we expect no ripe grapes here, as the season of growth (now) is fully two weeks later than usual and the weather unfavorable.

THOS BEALL.

Lindsay, Aug. 16th.

Middlesex and Perth.

Apples in this district are only about 20% of a crop; Duchess among early, and Northern Spy among late, are doing fairly well. The home demand will consume all the supply. Pears and plums are a good crop, above the average; the quality is generally good, except with the Flemish Beauty pear, which is badly spotted where it was not sprayed. Local demand for pears and plums will be pretty well supplied at home.

T. H. RACE.

Prince Edward County.

SIR,—Your postal card received, re the apple crop. From all returns received, we do not think the crop will be over 25%. The Beauty pears are very rough, cracked and spotted. Bartletts are clean and of Clapp's Favorite we do not think there will be over half a crop. Very few plums and grapes are grown around here. There are no peaches here at all.

H. BOULTER, Picton.