

Every one, whether in city or country, who owns a home, should devote some time to the cultivation of trees and shrubs, and thus assist in relieving the bare prairie aspect of the country, while at the same time beautifying their surroundings and increasing the value of their property. There is no trouble about securing varieties of trees and shrubs adapted to our climate. There are many varieties of trees and bushes native to this country, which are suitable for avenues, lawns, and hedges. Besides these native sorts, there are many varieties of ornamental and flowering shrubs, and some varieties of roses, etc., which can be procured from the nurseries of eastern Canada, which have proved hardy here.

Besides the purely ornamental trees and shrubs, some trees and bushes could be grown which would be valuable for their fruit as well as for ornamental purposes. It has been proved by experience that small fruits can be grown to good advantage here. The hardy varieties of raspberries, currants, gooseberries, etc., do well, and even such low bushes as these, planted about a prairie farm house, help to break the monotony of the open prairie. Some of the larger fruit trees may also be grown. Some varieties of crabs have proved hardy here, and they also make a pretty tree for ornamental purposes, being very handsome when in bloom. Every person owning a home with surroundings large enough to do some gardening, might do a little experimenting to the advantage of himself and the country at large, with the larger fruit trees, besides cultivating ornamental trees and shrubs, and small fruits.

The arrival of arbor day this year reminds us that Winnipeg has become quite a distributing centre for nursery stock from the Eastern nurseries. A number of large cases have recently arrived here, filled with trees and shrubs for all parts of Manitoba. This is welcome proof that our people are taking more interest in fruit, tree and shrub culture. The great attention being given to fruit culture in our Pacific province is also shown by the large cases of trees passing through Winnipeg for that province. The representative of E. P. Blackford & Co., a large Ontario nursery firm, with head office at Toronto, informs us that this year they have shipped stock to nearly all sections of the West, from Winnipeg to the coast. By giving some attention to the West in past years, they have learned what varieties of trees and shrubs prove hardy here, and with this knowledge they are now prepared to give more attention to the West in the future. With this object in view they are now looking for agents to represent them in the West. Nursery stock can be brought in either in the spring or fall. Trees and bushes shipped in the fall, and healed in, or covered up in the earth for planting the following spring, sometimes do better than stock shipped in the spring.

Prof Saunders, director of the Dominion experimental farms, has received the degree of L.L.D. from Queen's University for work done in advancing agricultural science and for work of a similar character in connection with the Royal Society.

Winter Wheat Growth.

Winter wheat prospects in Ohio are little if any better than they had been reported at any previous time, although there has been fair progress in the growth of the plant. In the northern counties of the state there is more improvement than in the southern, still a very light crop is the most that is looked for now for the state at large. Considerable improvement is reported in Illinois, owing to late rains and favorable weather. The southern counties and portions of the central are not showing as good progress as in the northern. Much improvement in Indiana is noted although there has been too much dry weather until the last week, for the best of conditions.

The northern counties give the best promise, and, in some sections, the crop is looking fairly well. There is very little hope in Wisconsin for anything better than a modest yield, although the plant looks much better since the late rains. In Iowa the winter wheat looks very well generally with good growth since the beginning of spring weather. In portions of Michigan the crop is making excellent progress, and although somewhat winter-killed in spots the prospect is good for a full crop.

Excellent reports come from Kansas. In some places wheat is knee high and jointed. Nearly all sections report the crop very promising. Conditions are bad in parts of Missouri but generally wheat is doing well and improving rapidly, with about the right kind of weather. Most countries that raise winter wheat in Nebraska report the situation as good with the plant, three to five inches high and growing fast. In some eastern counties in Kentucky the crop is thin on the ground and uneven in growth, but throughout the state it has mostly improved rapidly, with no recent impairment although insects are making their appearance in some portions. The chinch bug appears to be ravaging the crop in parts of Tennessee. The weather has been favorable lately and wheat is developing fast, and in most counties the prospect is very encouraging for a fine yield, although injury from insects is somewhat feared. Wheat is heading nicely in Oklahoma but chinch bugs are reported numerous in many sections.

The conditions as reported monthly by the agricultural department at Washington at best, supply but an indifferent basis for preliminary estimates of yield, but they do furnish indications that are at least interesting by comparison. The conditions in Ohio are estimated lower than in any late year. The nearest approach to it was in 1891 when they were 20 per cent higher than this year. Indiana is also lower than in any late year. In 1892 it was but one or two points better than this year, but last year, ten per cent better than now. Illinois was nearly ten per cent better than this year, while Missouri was some 16 per cent ahead of this season, and West Virginia, 40 per cent better. Kansas is far ahead of last year, while Kentucky is poorer now than then. Tennessee is nearly the same as last year.

If we take the percentage of condition in the leading winter wheat states, of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Kansas, Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee and West Virginia of the great central winter wheat belt, we find that the condition in the aggregate foots up on April 1, only 92 per cent of last year's condition. On the other hand the weather has been better during April for crop growth than it was last year, probably making up the difference, so that now the average condition would be about equal to last year. If the percentage was figured by acres instead of by states the result would be somewhat better than is shown by the foregoing figures. Still the average of these states in that case would be below the average of last year. It is pos-

sible that with weather as favorable for the remainder of the season, as it has been through April, that these states might yet yield more bushels in the aggregate than they yielded a year ago. At best, however, it would seem that nothing better than a moderate crop is possible in the chief winter wheat states except Kansas.—Minneapolis Market Record, May 5.

Montreal Grocery Market.

In sympathy with the continued strong markets for sugar and the firm feeling in refined in primary markets, the local situation is unchanged. The demand fails to improve to any extent, consequently business has been quiet and sales principally in small lots, but now that navigation has opened a more active trade is looked forward to. We quote: Granulated at 18c in 250-barrel lots and over, 1 11 10c in 100 barrel lots, and 17c in smaller quantities. Yellows range from 3 3/4 to 1 1/4, as to quality at the factory.

The market for syrups is very quiet and values are unchanged at 1 1/2 to 2 3/4 per lb., as to quality, at the factory.

During the past week the demand for molasses has been very limited, and little business of importance has been done. Porto Rico in round lots is offering on spot at 31c. Antigua at 27c, and Barbadoes to arrive at 29 1/2c.

The demand for spices has been of a limited character, and the market was quiet, with no change in prices to note. The following quotations are what jobbers can buy at only Penang black pepper, 6 to 7 1/2c; white pepper, 10 to 12 1/2c; cloves 7 1/2 to 9c; cassia 8 1/2 to 10 1/2c; nutmegs 60 to 90c; and Jamaica ginger 15 1/2 to 18 1/2c.

The tone of the coffee market is very firm, but business continues quiet. We quote: Maracibo 19 to 20c; Rio 18 to 18 1/2c; Java 21 to 27c. Jamaica, 17 1/2 to 18 1/2c; and Mocha 27 1/2 to 30c. —Gazette, May 1.

Reciprocity is Doomed.

The agitation of reciprocal relations with foreign countries is about to be abandoned by the Ways and Means Committee of the House because it is so interwoven with tariff problems. The committee did not fully realize the character of the relations between reciprocity and the tariff until the testimony came in. A report will be made to the House without any recommendation, and thus the matter will be buried for this session. The investigation disclosed a very strong sentiment against a discriminating system of reciprocity, and manufacturers were not willing to accept reciprocity with European countries, or with any nation likely to compete with manufactured products in the United States. How to arrange a satisfactory system of reciprocity is a great problem. Flour millers, machinery makers and others for instance, wanted free trade with Cuba but the Louisiana sugar interest entered an emphatic protest, and justly too, as reciprocity with Cuba would kill the sugar industry of that State and Texas. This was only one of the many snarls encountered by the committee, hence the decision to leave well enough alone. In the next tariff legislation reciprocity may play an important part.—New York Shipping List.

The returns of parties registered at the immigration hall, Winnipeg, for the month of April are as follows: British immigrants 133; Germans 77; Scandinavians 66; Belgians and French 20; United States 2; Canadians 62; total 360. During the month there were application for 250 men, youths and boys for farm work, and 150 were given employment. A large demand is reported for domestic servants.