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POTATO CROP DISEASES

Most Serious of Them Widely Established in Old Ontario.

Varieties of Grains Which Give Heaviest Yields-O. A. C. No. 21 Best Barley of All - Get Everything In Readiness for Spring Spraying

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

FFICIALS of the Ontario Department of Agriculture inspected 313 seed potato. fields in Northern Ontario last year of 278 acres, and 119 fields qualified for certified seed. It is estimated that there were 16,000 bushels of certified seed secured from Northern Ontario. All of this is being shipped to Old Ontario to be planted

The survey which was made last year by inspectors to detect diseases in the potatoes was spread over 32 counties, although the reports from four of that number are not included in the statistics because of irregulari-ties in the work. The territory cover-ed was from Northumberland and Peterborough counties west to Essex. not including Simcoe and Victoria. It was found in this survey that an average of 15 per cent. of the potatoes had the most serious disease of toes had the most serious disease of Leaf Roll, and that 7 per cent. were affected with Mosaic, a total of 22 per cent. affected by disease. An in-teresting fact revealed by the survey is that the diseases are most common along the shores of Lake Ontario, through Dufferin and Wellington counties, and along the shore of Lake Erie through to Essex county. Farther north the percentage of disease is much smaller. While the average for the two diseases is 22 per cent., some of the counties showed a much higher rate, as Haldimand 29, Welland 61.7, Lincoln 33.5, Wentworth 26.6, Brant 44.8, Halton 32.1, Peel 51.9 and York 25.4. The standard in this province permits of two per cent. Leaf Roll in No. 1 seed and 5 per cent. in No. 2. In severe Mosaic the percentage is the same, although slight Mosaic the figures are

The cause of these diseases is not known. Whether there is some organism, or whether the climate has something to do with them, is a matter of doubt. Prof. P. A. Murphy, of Charlottetown, who is the Chief Pathologist for potatoes for the Dom-inion, and who is attached to the Central Experimental Farm, is at work on this problem, and it is hoped that before many months the cause will be known. At any rate, it is known that the diseases are more common in potatoes in the Southern

States. That is why it is expected Ontario seed potatoes will be in de-mand there in a few years.

Leading Varieties of Spring The old Six-rowed barley gave way to the Mandscheuri, and that in turn has given place to the O.Á.C. No. 21, which is now grown throughout Ontario to the exclusion of practically all other varieties. The Egyptian and the Black Tartain varieties of oats. all other varieties. The Egyptian and the Black Tartarian varieties of oats which were popular at one time have been largely displaced by the Banner and more recently by the O.A.C. No. 72 and the O.A.C. No. 3 varieties. The O.A.C. No. 72 variety has a comparatively strong vigorous straw, spreading head, and white grain of good quality, the hull being quite thin. In experiments at the Ontario Agricultural College it has surpassed the Banner in yield per acre in each of nine out of ten years. It has made a phenomenal record in connection with the Ontario Standing Field Crop Competitions, taking more first prizes than all other varieties of oats combined. The O.A.C. No. 3 variety is ten days earlier than the Banner or the O.A.C. No. 72, and is an excellent variety for mixing with barley when it is desirable to grow the two in combination. Of the spring wheats the Red Fife, the Marquis and the Wild Goose are the principal varieties. At the present time, however, when the demand for wheat for bread production is so urgent the Marquis and the Red Fife, and especially the former, should be grown as extensively as possible in Ontario. Spring rye does not yield equal to Winter rye but its cultivation will perhaps be increased somewhat during the present year. The O.A.C. No. 61 variety has given the best results, surpassing all other kinds in yield of grain per acre.—Dr. C. A. Zavitz, O. A. College, Guelph. the Black Tartarian varieties of oats grain per acre.—Dr. C. A. Zavitz, O. A. College, Guelph.

Prepare for Spring Spraying.

Prepare for Spring Spraying.

Efficient and economic spraying is hard to attain with the use of poor machinery. The power sprayer is an expensive piece of machinery, but it is effective when properly handled. Its usefulness can be greatly impaired by improper care. To secure the highest degree of efficiency in spraying the maintenance of high pressure is necessary. Probably high pressure is not needed in all cases; it is, however, true that by means of it more thorough and, consequently, more effective work can be done in a much shorter time and with much less effort.

The agitation of the liquid in the tank is another important matter. In the case of most sprays, the individual particles that make up the insecticide are suspended in the wave.

omess the sprayer is equipped with a good agitator, these particles will settle to the bottom, rendering the mixture in the top of the tank weaker than it should be, and that in the bottom stronger, and possibly in some cases too strong for safe appli-

ation.
It is needless to say that the care

of spraying machinery should never be neglected. Indeed, the spraying butfit should never be put away afbutht should never be put away after using until the mixture is thoroughly cleared out from all parts of the pump, rod, piping, hose and nozeles by running clear water through hem. The water should be drained from the engine, and all parts cleaned and oiled.—Prof. Jno. Evans, D. A. College, Guelph.

NEW LAND POLICY.

Various Provinces Are Bound to Do Their Part.

The confidential memorandum relating to land settlement, submitted for consideration to the Inter-Provincial Conference held at Ottawa by the Dominion Government, has been made available for publication. The memorandum does not outline a definitely settled policy on the part of the Dominion Government, but covers proposals the adoption of which, either as a whole or in part, depends in a large measure upon the action of the various Provincial Legislatures. This is clearly indicated by the sub-division of the memorandum into parts such as "general observa-tions," "object of proposed policy," "outline of suggested policy," "notes on some details of settlement plans,"

In that section of the memorandum devoted to general and introductory observations the necessity for the adoption of progressive measures looking towards a continued rapid in-crease in the population of Canada is noted with the remark that "the policies heretofore pursued in an en-deavor to secure suitable immigration have become obsolete and largely ineffective."

After referring to the reservation

After referring to the reservation of Crown lands for soldier settlement, the abandoned farms, the millions of acres of wild land the title for which has passed into the hands of the Government, and the past lack of co-operation between the Federal and Provincial Governments as important factors in the problem, the memorandum says:
"Any comprehensive policy adopt-

"Any comprehensive pointy adopted with a view to securing a rapid increase in population and the settlement of land, necessarily involves the expenditure of large sums of money and the use of state credit. If money and the use of state credit. If Canada is to succeed in competition with other countries in this field of work, the provinces as well as the Dominion must stand prepared to pledge their credit and meet what-ever expenditures are required. Any cheese-paring policy will be doomed to failure."

The memorandum then outlines the objects of the proposed land settlement policy as follows:— The development of a nationagricultural settlement and produc-

2. The encouragement of a movement from urban centres to rural centres

3. The avoidance of overcrowding of labor.

4. The securing of suitable settlers in large numbers for our vacant lands, including abandoned farms. 5. The creation of conditions whereby suitable settlers with small means (including tenants) may in the course of time become the owners

of their farms. The memorandum then outlines the suggested policy of land settle-ments, the main features of which were announced when the inter-pro-vincial conference was in session. In this connection it is suggested that steps should be taken to ascertain the lands available for settlement, and that the provinces as far as possible should have uniform legislation for this purpose. To prevent owners from fixing an unreasonable or inflated selling price for their lands, each province should provide for a special provincial tax on wild lands, aban-doned farms and leased farms. It is also suggested that each province should take powers to expropriate lands required for settlement pur-

The memorandum recommends that the Federal Government should continue to be responsible for the admission of immigrants to Canada. admission of immigrants to Canada.
"One of the gravest situations confronting Canada," says the memorandum, "is the necessity for making suitable provision for the flood of British immigration that will move our way as soon as shipping is available. Unless steps are taken to make certain that a large proportion of these immigrants go to the land they will crowd out our large urban centres and bring about conditions centres and bring about conditions of unemployment and unrest that will be exceedingly detrimental to Canada as a whole."

Canada as a whole."

The memorandum assumes "for the purpose of discussion only" that each province desiring to secure Federal co-operation must determine for itself a number of things including: The class of settlers to be assisted; the maximum assistance to be given; the terms upon which such assistance shall be given.

The memorandum assumed that the Federal Government should undertake the securing of settlers from

dertake the securing of settlers from Great Britain and from foreign,

countries (otner than enemy, and that Provincial Governments should that Provincial Governments should take charge of the prospective settler upon arrival in Canada. It is suggested that there should be created a Federal Land Settlement Board, comprising the Minister of Immigration and a representative from each of the provinces. The board should be consultative and advisory, and not administrative. It should meet at least once annually for the purpose of reviewing the working out of any policies that may be adoptout of any policies that may be adont ed for land settlement throughout Canada.

Canada.

The final suggestion made by the memorandum is that there should be established in connection with the Department of Immigration and Colonization a Social Welfare Bureau to assist in the care of immigrants.

Robes of Righteousness

Burford Township Council is of-fering a \$50 reward for the appre-hension of thieves who lately visited the church sheds at Cathcart and Burford, carrying away all the robes from carriages and motor cars while the owners were attending service.

Old Lady Sees Movies for First Time. A Kitchener lady of eighty-five waw motion pictures for the first time just before Christmas, having expressed a wish to "see that Charlie Chaplin befores he died."

THE WHEAT PROBLEM.

British Government Will Buy From -Argentina.

Much interest attaches to the pub-Much interest attaches to the published statement that the British Government has established a credit of \$240,000,000 in Argentina with which to purchase wheat at a price of approximately \$1 a bushel; also that the wheat supply of Australia, so long unavailable because of a lack of shipping, is now pouring into Great Britain at about the same price as the Argentine wheat. It is an account of the same of the sa as the Argentine wheat. It is announced also that there will be a liberal supply of wheat available from next year's crop in the Ukraine and in Siberia, all of which gives an optimistic tinge to the world food situation.

Despite this releasing of a goodly.

Despite this releasing of a goodly quantity of cheap wheat, the American farmers are assured of \$2.20 a bushel for their 1919 crop, the same price that they received in 1918. The President has promised that next spring he will appoint a commission experts to investigate the facts

relative to the cost of production, and that if these facts show that a higher price than \$2.20 should be guaranteed he will adopt it. This action in the United States must have its effect on Canadian wheat.

its effect on Canadian wheat. There no longer exist any restrictions upon the use of all-wheat bread imposed by the food administration. Within the last few days orders have gone out to the hotel and restaurant keepers informing them that the resulations nut into them that the regulations put inte effect early last year were called off and that, among other things, they were free to serve as much bread

as the customer wants.
If England and France buy Argustine and Australian wheat at \$1 street bushel and only resort to the \$2.20 bushel and only resort to the \$2.20 American wheat to make up their deficiency, it seems probable that the food administration will be left with a liberal supply of wheat upon its hands for which it must pay the American farmer \$2.20. This will impose something of a burden upon the taxpayers of the United States, but it will assure the agricultural interests of a good profit in recognition. terests of a good profit in recognition of their efforts to increase the grain production to meet the war emer-

gency.

This apparent plethora of breadstuffs, however, does not reduce the danger of starvation in the Balkan states and in certain parts of Russia, a condition which has been predicted by Mr. Hoover. Transportation facilities are not available for carrying relief to these sections, and they are doomed to a hard winter. Even France and Belgium are facing a serious food situation because of a serious food situation because of their inability to get enough ships to haul grain for them. But in spite of these unfavorable phases of the situation, the farmer on this continent appears to have a seat at the head of the table.

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