

# FARMING

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## Superintendent of Farmers' Institutes

### Mr. G. C. Creelman appointed to Succeed Mr. Hodson.

The acceptance by Mr. F. W. Hodson of the position of Live Stock Commissioner at Ottawa has necessitated the appointment of a new Superintendent of Farmers' Institutes for this province. This vacancy has been filled by the appointment of Mr. Geo. C. Creelman, B.S.A., who will assume his new duties about December 1st.

Mr. Creelman, who is a graduate of the Ontario Agricultural College, was reared on a Canadian farm near Collingwood. In 1885 he entered the college at Guelph, and was graduated in 1888. After receiving his degree, he was appointed on the staff of the Mississippi Agricultural College, where he remained as professor of biology for nine years. He served as lecturer on the Institute staff of that state during these years, and was director of Institutes during 1896 and 1897. During these two years he gave evidence of considerable ability and aptitude for his special line of work, and, consequently, comes to his new duties here with an experience that should make his services of great value to the Institute work of this province. Before Mr. Creelman enters upon his duties as Mr. Hodson's successor we hope to be able to give our readers a fuller account of the new superintendent and his work.

## The Apple Crop

Mr. Eben James, of this city, Canadian representative of Woodall & Co., Liverpool, Eng., and other British apple importers, in his annual announcement to the Canadian trade gives some valuable data in regard to the world's apple crop for 1899. In regard to the English crop Woodall & Co. have recently cabled him as follows: "Of 351 reports received from various sections of Great Britain, 20 are over average, 137 average and 194 under average. This is lower than last year's reports, when there were 42 over average, 150 average and 139 under average. In regard to the Continent reports to date indicate a fairly good crop in Belgium, Holland, and Germany. They produce, however, very little red fruit. Mr. James recently attended the National Apple Shippers' Convention at Detroit and from reports read and discussed by delegates there from various States, it was estimated that the crop in the United States was double that of last year, and he estimated percentages for the different states, based on 100 per cent. as a full crop ranged from 30 to 75 per cent. Mr. James adds: "From most reliable sources I am informed that it is extremely hard to form a definite estimate, as there are some apples in every important growing district, though generally uneven as to quality and quantity."

In regard to the Ontario crop Mr. James says: "It is my opinion from observation, and, I believe, that of the best posted dealers, that the crop is not so heavy as last year, although quality is generally much better. Fall varieties are generally light, and in some sections a failure. In only a few sections is the crop as heavy as last year and many are decidedly light which had a good yield last season. It is difficult to estimate correctly, as some counties

apparently light have streaks showing a good yield. The Nova Scotia crop is reported much heavier than that of last year, though not so heavy as three years ago; about 90 per cent. of a crop. The quality is fine, though rain is needed."

In conclusion Mr. James gives the following summary and outlook:

"The principal export states of the United States show only a limited export surplus, and their home demand can consume a much larger quantity than they produced last year, as they purchased extensively in Canada. However, should high prices rule in Britain, no doubt a considerable quantity will be exported from there. The British crop is light; times there are good; our fruit is generally clean, and I think we are safe in anticipating fully as good prices for Canadian apples as last year. The shortage of fall fruit should keep the market clear from early gluts, which sometimes follow heavy shipments of soft varieties, and ensure our winters a good reception.

While our crop is lighter, the probabilities that the United States will take little from us, and the increase in Nova Scotia, may make Canadian exports as high as last year."

## San Jose Scale Commission Report Presented to the Minister of Agriculture

The Commission of Inquiry concerning the operation of the San Jose Scale Act presented its report last week. The report deals very fully as to the working of the Act, the extent of the infestation of the scale, the possibility of checking the further spread of the scale and eventually exterminating it, and as to the danger of re-infestation from the United States. It is a somewhat lengthy document, and we cannot do more than give a summary of the conclusions reached on the questions submitted. The members of the Commission were Dr. Mills, President of the Ontario Agricultural College, John Dearness, Inspector of Public Schools, East Middlesex, and W. H. Bunting, fruit grower, St. Catharines.

The inquiry began on June 20th, and ended on July 14th, during which period the commissioners visited all the leading fruit-growing sections of the province, as well as opposite Niagara in the State of New York, and Catawba Island in the State of Ohio. One hundred and sixty-eight witnesses were examined upon oath. While in Ohio, some valuable information was gathered regarding the scale, and the remedies adopted to destroy or check its growth. For this the Commission was largely indebted to Prof. Webster, of the State College. The use of whale oil soap was shown to be a somewhat effective means of checking the spread of the scale. Prof. Webster is an advocate of the most vigorous measures for the destruction of the scale.

In regard to the extent of the infestation the commissioners report as follows:

(1) That the largest known infestations are in one corner of Niagara Township, in the County of Lincoln, near Niagara-on-the-Lake, and in the Township of Harwich, Kent County, in the neighborhood of Guilds P. O.

(2) That there is a limited infestation at Kingsville, in the County of Essex, confined chiefly to two adjoining farms, and smaller ones at St. Catharines, at Winona in Wentworth, Burlington in Halton, and near Chatham in the county of Kent.