

## HORTICULTURE.

In a recent address before the Nova Scotia School of Horticulture, Dr. Lawson delivered an excellent address on horticulture, which he defined as a specialized form of agriculture, less extensive in its scope, but more thorough in its operations, the main question being not how much we increase the amount of crop over the largest acreage at the least expenditure, but rather by what means shall we reach the highest perfection in quality of produce. Horticulture, he said, produces things to eat, like agriculture, but the horticulturist's efforts are mainly directed at improving their quality. It is not mere high farming, but consists of this, combined with the application of knowledge, thought and experience, and all possible appliances to secure the end in view.

He also spoke of what was grown in the small holdings of Holland and in the gardens of Kent, England, fully demonstrating the possibilities of enlarging the amount of produce raised from the soil, of improving the health of the farm population, and adding to their domestic comforts by a more varied diet of fresh vegetables and fruits. Commenting on this, a number of journals urge the different governments to bestow on horticulture the same attention which they have extended to the dairy industries. The *Montreal Trade Review* thus expresses itself:

The neglect of garden culture by the rural population of Canada is very lamentable, as thereby sources of profit are ignored, the advantages of a more varied and healthful diet are put aside, and one of the pleasures of country life to young and old is abandoned. The farmers' gardens in the old world are made by skilful cultivation to yield more per rood than any part of the farm, as well as a source of delight to the family, and to visitors. An acre, or half an acre, or less, given up to a garden can be cultivated more thoroughly than large areas. Spading is necessary to get the best results, and processes too tedious for use on a large scale, thorough weeding, earthing up, use of the best fertilizers and so on, but the yield of fruits and vegetables from a garden so treated is large.

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