

been produced. An improved variety of rhubarb has been developed and is now grown extensively throughout Western Canada as well as in the East.

Research work with maple sugar by the Chemistry Department is of special interest to Quebec. The determination of purity in maple products and its protection through legislation have been matters of much concern to those connected with the maple sugar industry. A rapid method of testing maple syrup and sugar for purity has been originated at Macdonald College, an electrical conductivity test, which gives values of a narrower range in genuine syrups than any of the current methods. A discovery in connection with decolorising agents promises to be of great advantage to the "manufacturer" of maple products, enabling him to make a product of uniform color and good flavor from the stock of various qualities received from numerous farmers. Other interesting and promising work having to do with flavor and keeping quality is under way.

In conjunction with others, very important research work in soils has been undertaken by the Chemistry Department. It is generally known that the productivity of Quebec soil in many parts is low. Very little definite knowledge of these soils is available. Macdonald College has done the only definite research work reported to date. Limited though it has been because of lack of funds, some surprising things have been discovered. In soils generally considered to be poor in organic matter, research has revealed an abundance and the problem instead of being one of organic matter deficiency has been found to be one of organic matter excess, or as it has been termed, a "constipated" condition, brought about