

the thoroughness with which the results obtained are distributed throughout the farming community, These data also clearly show the keen interest which is taken in the work by the farmers throughout the country. In addition to their other duties, the various officers carry their work into different centres where special stimulus or information may be needed — where it will prove most useful — distributing through the medium of lectures the results obtained in the laboratory and the field.

At the time of the Indian and Colonial Exhibition, the Director performed an important work in the capacity of Special Commissioner, in making a collection of fruits from all parts of the Dominion, which attracted wide attention.

Among the earliest questions presented for solution was that of the grains best adapted to cultivation in Canada. The valuable results obtained with the Ladoga and Red Fyfe wheats, which secure to the Canadian farmers high grade spring grains of large yield and weight, and with the two-rowed barley, which has proved so superior for malting purposes over the ordinary six-rowed varieties, are in themselves of such importance to the farming community as to justify the establishment of these farms.

The work of the chemical department is almost wholly in the direction of fertilizer, soil and sample analyses, though a limited amount of time has been found for determinations of more pronounced value. Among these we note "The composition of apple tree leaves, being the first of a series of analyses on the apple, with a view to ascertain a rational mode of fertilizing orchards;" a report on "The effect of solutions of copper and iron sulphates, alone and together, on the vitality of the wheat germ."

With the advent of a well-qualified head, the horticultural department has rapidly taken the prominent position which it should hold. It is gratifying to note that the extensive and valuable work undertaken by the late Charles Gibb, relative to the introduction of hardy fruits, is here being continued and extended. The free distribution of fruit trees is a very important feature of the work. During the