

English Butter Test and Milking Trials.

In the one-day butter test for cows of any breed or cross, at the Tunbridge Wells Show, July 26th, the averages of the 12 cows in the competition were as follows:

	Days in milk.	—Yields—				Ratio.	Points.
		Milk.	Butter.				
		lb. oz.	lb. oz.				
12 Cows	120	33 13	1 14½		17.68		38.55

The first prize of £10 went to Dr. Watney's Jersey cow, Guenon's White Thorn, 10 years old, whose yield of milk, 61 days after calving, was 45 lbs. 6 ozs., and of butter, 2 lbs. 13 ozs.; ratio, pounds of milk to pounds of butter, 16.13. All the other cash prizes and five certificates of merit also went to Jersey cows, the record of the second winner being 34 lbs. 12 ozs. milk, and 2 lbs. 2½ ozs. butter, 155 days after calving.

In the milking trial, open to cows of any breed or cross, the first prize went to a dairy Shorthorn, Mr. D. Kelly's Minit 2nd, five years old; her milk record, 115 days after calving, being 64.5 lbs. The second prize also went to a dairy Shorthorn, 8 years old, her yield 144 days after calving being 59.9 lbs.

In the Guernsey butter test, the five-year-old, Lady Russel, gave, 95 days after calving, 41.6 lbs. milk, 2 lbs. 4½ ozs. butter, and won the first prize.

Cow-testing in Alberta.

Under the guidance of C. Marker, formerly of the Dairy Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, but now Dairy Superintendent in the Province of Alberta, the Agricultural Department at Edmonton has interested farmers of that Province in forming District Dairy Record Associations, the scope and purpose of which are similar to those of the cow-testing associations recently organized in Ontario and Quebec.

GARDEN ORCHARD.

Fruit-growing in British Columbia.

Fruit-growing in British Columbia, like the climatic and soil conditions in its various districts, is so diversified in character, and of such importance, that it is hardly possible to do the industry anything like justice in the space at our command, and when the reader has perused this article to the end, he must bear in mind that there still remains much to be said.

Less than sixteen years ago the first full carload of fruit was shipped out of British Columbia. In the season of 1904 the fruit crop was valued at \$600,000, and the area under cultivation estimated at 14,000 acres. In 1905 the area under fruit had been increased to 20,000 acres, and the total revenue derived therefrom was nearly one million dollars. In the same year something like \$500,000 was expended in the purchase and improvement of fruit lands, and the average price received for grade No. 1 apples, from October 1st, 1905, to March 31st, 1906, was \$1.27 per 40-lb. box, f.o.b. shipping point. The early varieties started out at \$1 net, and during the latter part of February and March as high as \$2 per box was being paid for strictly No. 1 in carload lots. The average price of other fruits for the season of 1905 were: Pears, \$1.38 per 40-lb. box; prunes and plums, 75 cents per 20-lb. box; peaches, \$1.15 per 20-lb. box; strawberries, \$2.30 per 24-basket crate; raspberries, \$2.19 per 24-basket crate; blackberries, \$2.40 per 24-basket crate; gooseberries, 5½ cents per pound; crab apples, 2½ cents per pound; tomatoes, 5½ cents per pound; currants, 7 cents per pound; cherries, 9 cents per pound.

Outside of the quantities consumed in our own cities, the chief market for British Columbia fruit is the Prairie Provinces, a market which will always demand the best that the fruit-grower can produce, and in ever-increasing quantities, so that British Columbia need have no fear, no matter how rapidly the industry develops, of an over-production of good, clean, commercial varieties. On the vast plains to the east, fruit-growing on a commercial basis is not likely ever to be a success. That territory is bound to increase rapidly in population, and the consumption of fruit will be enormous. It is a curious fact that the average family on the prairies of the Northwest consumes more fruit than do those of British Columbia, and it is quite natural also to expect that as the farmers of the prairies succeed within a comparatively few years in laying by sufficient to keep them in comfort for the rest of their lives, they should look to British Columbia, with its congenial climate, magnificent scenery and tremendous unexplored and undeveloped natural resources, as a place in which to spend their declining years.

The best immigration work that British Columbia can do is to develop the fruit-growing industry, and to send large quantities of first-class fruit, properly grown, harvested, packed and shipped, into the Northwest. This will judiciously advertise the Province, and bring our own people here as soon as they become tired of the more rigorous climate of the prairies.

The geological formations and climatic conditions render it necessary to divide the fruit-growing area of the Province into nine general divisions.

No. 1 might be called the south-western coast district, which includes the southern half of Vancouver Island, adjacent islands, and what is usually called the

lower mainland. Here the production of small fruits may be said to be more successful, and, consequently, more profitable than that of the tree fruits. Nevertheless, there are a number of very excellent varieties of apples, pears, plums, prunes and cherries, which grow to perfection in this district, besides many different varieties of nuts, and, in especially favored spots, peaches, grapes, nectarines, apricots and other tender fruits.

In most parts of this district, the mild character of the climate and the excessive moisture during the winter season are very favorable to the development of fungous diseases, and it is, therefore, necessary to practice persistent and systematic spraying of the orchards, clean

Spallumcheen river. Here the natural rainfall is sufficient, and splendid apples, pears, plums and cherries are successfully grown. The climatic conditions in this district resemble very much those of southern Ontario, and a fruit-grower with fixed ideas from the latter Province might be more successful in this district than he would on irrigated lands. The timber is, generally speaking, light, and the land rich.

No. 5 is the great Okanagan valley, stretching from Larkin southward to the international boundary. The vicinity of Kelowna in this valley contains the largest area of fruit lands of any one place in the Province. Peaches are now being shipped in large quantities from the Okanagan, and all other northern fruits are success-

fully grown by the irrigation system. Improved modern methods are in general use by the growers in this district, and the industry is, perhaps, more advanced than in any other part of British Columbia.

No. 6 is usually called the Boundary or Kettle River country, and though the smallest of all the districts named, the quality of the land is excellent, and the climatic conditions all that could be desired. Where a sufficient water supply is obtainable there is no trouble in producing fruit of the highest quality.

No. 7 is west Kootenay, an enormous fruit-growing district,

where only a little progress has been made on the southern portion, but sufficient to indicate the possibilities and the superior quality of the fruit which may be raised along those lakes and streams. The neighborhood of Nelson and Kaslo has accomplished wonders in the last few years, but the shores of the Arrow lakes are practically untouched by the hand of the fruit-grower, and the valley of the Columbia, from the Big Bend south to Arrowhead, affords opportunities little dreamed of by many of those in search of fruit lands. In the greater part of this district, irrigation is only necessary in the very dry seasons.

District No. 8 is the country known as East Kootenay, and is separated from No. 7 by the Dog-tooth range of mountains. It is traversed by the Upper Kootenay river from Thunder Hill southward to Phillips' range, on the international boundary, and from Thunder Hill northward, by the Upper Columbia river, to the Big Bend. In the southern portion of this district there are immense stretches of thinly-wooded lands, suitable for fruit-growing purposes, and the valley of the Upper Columbia has many choice locations for the enterprising fruit-grower. The lack of transportation facilities is a great hindrance to the development of the fruit lands of the Upper Columbia.

District No. 9 comprises the coast region, from Jervis Inlet to Skeena river. There is little known of

Frank Richter's Orchard, Keremeos, B. C.

cultivation of the soil, and a thorough system of under-drainage in order to get the most profitable results.

District No. 2 includes the valleys of the upper Fraser, the main Thompson, the North Thompson, the Nicola and Bonaparte rivers. Here there are practically none of the above-named difficulties to contend with, but the question of water to irrigate the lands is one requiring serious consideration, as without an abundant supply of water in the dry belt it is impossible to be sure of a crop every year. The prospective fruit-grower, however, does not have to contend with the heavy forests along the Thompson river that have to be encountered on the coast. The fruits grown are of the very highest quality, and include all the varieties mentioned in connection with district No. 1.

The largest quantities of grapes shipped annually from any one point in the Province are produced near the junction of the Fraser and the Thompson rivers.

District No. 3 may be briefly described as the valleys of the Similkameen and its tributaries, portions of which are, perhaps, the most tropical in climatic conditions of any part of British Columbia, and most favorable locations for the cultivation of grapes, peaches and other delicate fruits, wherever sufficient water for irrigation purposes is available.

No. 4 includes the districts surrounding Adams, Shuswap and Maple lakes, and the valley of the



Apple Trees, Coldstream Ranch, Vernon, B. C.