

being cultivated and appreciated, among these are gooseberries, currants and juneberries. Wheat is king here—long may he reign—surrounded by lesser lights in the factors that compose a successful and profitable mixed husbandry.

*British Columbia.*—I approach a description of the fruit resources of this province with a diffidence born of lack of personal knowledge, increased by a feeling of the extraordinary possibilities of its deltas, its coast line, its valleys, its benches, its irrigated lands. Great climatic variation means a corresponding widening of the possibilities of fruit culture, and there is here undoubtedly a more extended range of thermometric variation and atmospheric moisture, than is found in any other province of the Dominion. That fruit of fine quality can be grown and is being increasingly cultivated is evidenced by the magnificent plums, pears and apples shown by the Superintendent, Mr. Thos. A. Sharpe, of the British Columbia Experimental Farm at the leading exhibitions of Ontario last autumn. That apples of surpassing size and of great beauty are grown is attested by the fact that British Columbia won and held the distinction for some time at the World's Fair of having the largest apple on exhibition, and may I venture to add that she can also claim the proud distinction of numbering among her landed proprietors the Earl of Aberdeen His Excellency the Governor General of Canada, and the largest orchardist in the Dominion. The value of His Excellency's extensive orchard situated at Vernon in the Okanagan district, to the province from the standpoint of a stupendous object lesson, comprising as it does some 200 acres of fruits, together with its colonizing influence, may not be over estimated. Pears, plums and apples are grown with great success in the Okanagan valley. Speaking of the best fruit lands of the province, a pioneer fruit grower, Mr. E. Hutcherson, of Ladners, says: "Some of the best fruit lands are to be found along the mountains and foothills on either side of the numerous valleys of the province."