

second growth poplar and birch, which have been cleared. The second growth trees have been pulled up bodily with chains, and dynamite used for removing the stumps, and the land thus cleared is now yielding grain, ploughing having been done early in the season. Last season's work might be styled the period of foundation, and it is hoped rapid improvements will follow. The newly cleared land referred to will afford excellent opportunities of experimenting with fertilizers. In the use and application of fertilizers many errors have been made. In this virgin soil the Professor hoped to elucidate this important question, eliminating as much as possible the errors which have crept in on account of applying the fertilizers to partially or wholly exhausted lands, or to lands already highly manured. We shall be able, he added, to test the different fertilizers and combinations of fertilizers, by continuous experiment year after year on the same soil and with the same crops until some definite conclusions are reached regarding their relative merits in bringing about an increased yield. Fertilizers will necessarily be much more used in the future than in the past, especially on the more or less exhausted lands in the older Provinces where the three important elements required, viz., phosphoric acid, nitrogen and potash are becoming rapidly exhausted. Those portions of Canada which had been under cultivation for a long period needed fertilizers most, while such lands as those of Manitoba and the great North-West had little need of fertilizers at present. Professor Saunders then briefly referred to the able work performed by Mr. Fletcher, the Entomologist and Botanist, and by Mr. Hilborn, the Horticulturist to the farm. These gentlemen would speak each on his particular branch. He continued, and said that if they succeeded in introducing from time to time such new varieties of wheat, barley and oats as would be useful to the country, the good resulting from this alone would be found of inestimable value. Much had been done in procuring trees, shrubs and fruit trees from various parts of the world. Directors of botanical gardens in various countries had given handsome donations and had promised to send more. Perhaps the most interesting received were those which came from the Agricultural College in Japan, where they grow many varieties of grain, shrubs, trees and vines peculiar to that country. He had received a letter from Japan this week in which the Canadian Experi-