

WHAT PEACH-GROWERS IN ONTARIO SHOULD DO AT ONCE.

In some districts in Ontario, Little Peach has already caused the loss of several orchards, and of many trees in near-by orchards. No chance should be given it to make further progress; therefore, every grower is urged to destroy at once every tree marked by the inspector, and every suspected tree. It is very important not to let them remain in the orchard till next spring. There is no use hoping for the recovery of trees. They never recover from this disease.

A much fuller account of the Little Peach disease, with recommendations for its control, is being published, and may be obtained free in a few days from the Department of Agriculture, Toronto. L. CAESAR, B. A., B. S. A.

O. A. C., Guelph.

New Superintendent for Jordan Harbor Station.

A. D. Harkness, of Irena P. O., Dundas Co., Ont., has been appointed by the Hon. Jas. S. Duff to be Superintendent of the Horticultural Experiment Station at Jordan Harbor, in succession to the late Harvey S. Peart, who died some months ago.

With his appointment is announced a slight change in the policy of the Minister of Agriculture with regard to the management of the Jordan Farm. Formerly it was in charge of a director who was responsible for all the work carried on. It is now proposed to place it under the immediate supervision of the director of the Fruit Branch of the Department, P. W. Hodgetts, who will visit the farm once a week, or as often as is necessary to keep closely in touch with the scientific and other work being carried on. Mr. Harkness will be the resident superintendent. It is believed that this policy will not only keep the Department in closer touch with the Farm, but also result in increased usefulness.

In Mr. Harkness, the Government believe they have secured an excellent man for the position. Since taking a course at the Ontario Agricultural College, he has been one of the most prominent fruit-growers in Eastern Ontario. He was one of the first to adopt spraying and other scientific methods, and has continued consistently in this line. As a consequence, he has built up one of the most successful commercial orchards in the eastern part of the Province—a good recommendation for his future work, as it is the desire of the Minister, while not neglecting the experimental side, to give as much attention as possible to the commercial aspect of the work. For many years Mr. Harkness served as a director of the Ontario Fruit-growers' Association, and he is widely known as an Institute speaker. Moreover, in the selection of an Eastern man, it is intended to further emphasize the fact that the farm is a Provincial, and not a local institution. Mr. Harkness will commence his new duties at once.

POULTRY.

Let the sun shine into the henhouse. Put in some windows, if necessary.

* * *

Poultry in early winter are prompted to roost early, and take none too much exercise during the day. Brighten them up with as much direct sunshine as can be gotten into their pens, and see that they scratch for their feed in clean, dry litter.

* * *

If poultry producers wish to place the marketing of their products on a thoroughly satisfactory basis, and command for superior quality the premium it deserves, it would seem as though co-operation were the chief hope of success. If it could be developed to the point of controlling the market, it would, of course, place the producer in a particularly favorable position.

* * *

The ventilation of poultry houses is not a difficult problem. A large area of canvas on the south or south and east sides, and a loose straw loft, with small apertures opening under a projecting gable or roof, provide inlet and outlet, respectively, the straw serving incidentally to help keep the atmosphere dry. So far from the canvas keeping the henhouse too cold, it will be found, in most latitudes, advantageous to have part of the space open for a portion of the time. Indeed, some poultrymen have dispensed with the canvas entirely.

The easier questions have largely been settled, but we shall never develop a satisfactory system of country life until we settle the hard questions as well, the better schools, better roads, better church and social advantages. We shall even develop a better skill in farming than many of us have ever dreamed of.—L. H. Bailey.

Poultry Business at Macdonald College.

Professor F. C. Elford, of Macdonald College, is demonstrating that there is money in poultry for the average farmer, without the installation of expensive buildings. "Twenty-five dollars should house twenty-five birds," he says, and practices what he preaches. Last year, his proceeds from 700 hens, in twelve months, were \$2,348.70 for eggs, and \$1,732.72 for dressed poultry, which totals \$4,081.42, and he had left a larger stock than he began with. Of course, he obtains fancy prices for his products. The feed bill was \$1,000. He advocates the use of colony houses, moving the hens about on the farm, thus utilizing the wastes and keeping them healthy. By using the hopper for feeding, he has to feed the hens only once a month, and the chicks, after about six weeks, are treated in the same manner, thus minimizing the labor.

THE FARM BULLETIN.

Big U. S. Corn Crop.

The Crop-reporting Board of the Bureau of Statistics of the United States Department of Agriculture estimates, from the reports of the correspondents and agents of the Bureau, as follows, for the United States:

Crops.	Yield per Acre.			Production.		Quality.	
	1910	1909	10-yr.	1910	1909	1910	10 yr.
Corn, bushels	27.4	25.5	25.8	3,121,381,000	2,772,376,000	87.2%	84.4%
Buckwheat, bushels.....	20.9	20.9	18.5	17,084,000	17,438,000	92.0 "	90.7 "
Potatoes, bushels	93.4	106.8	91.4	328,787,000	376,537,000	88.5 "	87.7 "
Flaxseed, bushels	4.9	9.4	9.5	15,050,000	25,856,000	84.8 "	91.1 "
Tobacco, pounds	795.4	804.3	811.6	967,150,000	949,357,000	85.2 "	86.3 "

Corn.—Percentage of 1909 crop on farms, November 1st, 1910, is estimated at 4.3 per cent. (119,056,000 bushels), against 3.0 per cent. (79,779,000 bushels) of the 1908 crop on farms November 1st, 1909, and 3.8 per cent., the average of similar estimates of the past ten years.

Wheat.—The average weight per measured bushel of this year's crop is 58.5 pounds, against 57.9 pounds in 1909, and 57.6 the ten-year average.

Oats.—The average weight per measured bushel of this year's crop is 32.7 pounds, against 32.7 pounds in 1909, and 31.1 the ten-year average.

Barley.—The average weight per measured bushel of this year's crop is 46.9 pounds.

Apples.—Average production of 1910 crop, 43.5 per cent. of a full crop, against 42.5 per cent. of a full crop in 1909, and 50.7 the ten-year average percentage of a full production.

The "Distressful" (?) Country: An Optimistic Letter.

TILLAGE INCREASING.

Well-wishers of Ireland—and Canada contains many of them—will be pleased to learn that there are still hopes for the Old Land. The tillage area is in a sense the pulse of a country's agricultural health, and the encouraging information has come to hand since the last Irish Notes appeared in these columns, that the area under the plow in Ireland has this season shown an increase of almost 70,000 acres. A matter of two per cent.—that is the proportion—is not, of course, very substantial, but it encourages the belief that the tide is turning, and it is gratifying to find that all four Provinces share in the advance, notably poor Connaught in the west, which has to its credit an increase of just 7 per cent. In Connaught a great many of the big grazing ranches, purchased by the Estates Commissioners during the past couple of seasons, have been divided up among tenants evicted in the bad old times, and other suitable occupants, and the appearance of several districts has been totally and beneficially transformed in consequence, the new conditions working already a notable influence on the agricultural statistics. Comparing this year with last, the acreage under grain crops in the whole country has increased by 4 per cent. (wheat by 9 per cent.); that under green crops by 1 per cent.; under flax by 20 per cent., and under fruit by 3 per cent.

SATISFACTORY LIVE-STOCK CENSUS.

This season's official figures regarding live stock are also generally satisfactory, and possess more than local interest. Excluding two years (1907 and 1908), the number of milch cows and in-calf heifers, viz., 1,557,584, is the highest on record since 1860. Sheep declined from last year by less than 1 per cent.—doubtless due to the discouraging mutton trade experienced—to a figure almost reaching four millions. While pigs were over 50,000 more numerous, still the total of 1,200,000 is not as great as it ought to be, with current prices for pork so remunerative. With regard to horses, we have an increase of over 14,000, in spite of the growing popularity of the motor car and the motor-driven farm machinery.

a

The total equine population is now 613,214, the highest for the past eleven years. Poultry, too, have become more plentiful, numbering 24,339,000. Notwithstanding a rather trying hatching season, this indicates an increase of just one quarter of a million birds on the previous year.

NOTABLE HAPPENINGS AMONG PEDIGREE STOCK.

While on the subject of live stock it will not be amiss to refer to a couple of striking indications of Ireland's progress in pedigree stock breeding. At a recent sale in the Argentine of Shorthorn bulls imported from the United Kingdom, Irish-bred animals figured with unusual prominence, and one of them, Orphan Courier, realized the great price of £1,232, the second highest figure recorded. The breeder of this bull—which was from the famous Orphan-Luxury family—was the Right Hon. Fred. Wrench, of Ballybrack, Co. Dublin. The other notable incident alluded to is a great testimony to Irish enterprise, and occurred during the series of sensational Shorthorn sales in Scotland during the past month, when, at the offering from Mr. Gordon's herd at Combscausway, a plucky Irish breeder, in R. J. Ogilby, of Dungiven, Co. Derry, distinguished himself by paying the record price of 1,300 guineas for a January bull calf. Several other lots were secured for Ireland, but need not be detailed.

By the way, we have had several important

pedigree sales in our own country since last I wrote. The Irish Shorthorn Breeders' Association's annual sale was a very successful affair, and prices ranging up to 100 gs. were realized, close on 40 animals being bought for English herds. Then one of the foremost Irish breeders of Aberdeen-Angus cattle, W. H. B. Moorhead, of Co. Down, disposed of a large portion of his herd at figures running up to over 60 gs., and a few days ago the premier Jersey herd in the country, and one that proved irresistible in the show-yard for its owner, M. O'Neill, Co. Dublin, was dispersed at very satisfactory prices. A notable and very choice Shropshire flock, kept for many years in Co. Meath by Capt. Naper, has also ceased to exist. Many buyers attended the breaking up, and as high as 40 guineas were paid for rams.

COMPLIMENTARY VISITS.

If proof were wanting to show that Ireland is developing, surely it is to be found in the extent to which it is being visited by those on the search for instruction and edification. Even the Canadian Pork Commission of last year found something to learn in the Green Isle, and this season we have had touring round and through the country organized parties of influential farmers from Essex, in England, and Glamorganshire, in Wales; while the English Arboricultural Society also selected Ireland for their annual trip. The country's agricultural resources, and the uses that are being made of them, have thus been subjected to critical scrutiny, and our visitors have been very appreciative in declaring the results of their observations. The more particular object of the Welsh farmers' visit was to study how the State helps Irish agriculture, and at the close of their tour they did not disguise the fact that they won't be happy till the gallant little principality has its own department of agriculture, organized and run on the same lines as the department in Ireland. Similarly, Scotland clamors for the same boon, and it is evident that Ireland has ceased to be the Cinderella of the Kingdom, and is now admittedly leading in many matters of supreme importance.

BENEFITS FROM THE BUDGET.

Lloyd George's immortal budget has brought, in the Development Grant, the promise—nay, the definite prospect—of real help to the agricultural industry of the United Kingdom. All told, Ireland has claimed a sum of £275,000 out of this fund, for four vitally important undertakings, viz., horse-breeding, forestry, research work and fisheries, and the first three of these have practically been admitted. On behalf of horse-breeding the claim was £10,000 a year for five years. In this connection no new machinery is called for, but merely an extension of an existing scheme, which is considered so wise and practical that the new scheme to be adopted by the English authorities is almost a replica of it. The Commissioners displayed some tendency to shelve the demand for £20,000 per annum for five years, made on behalf of Irish forestry, but spirited protests have induced them to hurry up the tackling of this extremely urgent problem, which could never be solved more easily than at the present time. In the matter of preparedness to utilize wisely money