

THE FRUIT CROP.

The warm weather, the past week, has made a marked difference in the size of the fruit; some neglected orchards are literally crawling with tent caterpillars and canker worm. When will farmers learn to protect their fruit trees, instead of having such unsightly monuments of brush and neglect as I witnessed to-day on a few, otherwise, beautiful farms?

R. L. HUGGARD, *Whitby.*

Oxford County.

SIR,—In reply to your post-card of the 23rd inst., I think the following will be about the estimate of the fruit crop in this district, although the season is somewhat backward, we have had no frosts worth speaking of to check vegetation, but generally cool weather for the month of June.

The outlook for the apple crop is most favorable, but not a full crop. Pears will be an average crop, the fruit comparatively clean and free from spot. The plum crop will be a good average, some places much affected with curculio. Cherries will be a medium crop. Gooseberries, raspberries and currants yielding abundantly. Peaches and grapes, very little grown in this section for market. Strawberries are a heavy crop, and if dry weather does not set in, will be fine in quality; so that the prospects throughout this district are on the whole very promising.

JAS. S. SCARFF.

Prince Edward Co.

SIR,—Your post-card of the 23rd received, regarding the fruit prospects in our section. Apples will be a fair crop; the cold, wet May caused many of the blossoms to drop off, but what is left will be better; the winter varieties are the best, the Snows bearing so heavily, will be light; the Duchess, as usual, looks well. Pears bid fair, but I see many of the Flemish Beauty are turning dark, and possibly many will be useless; Bartlett's are good. Cherries, an abundant crop. Plums only fair. Strawberries wintered well and came through splendid, but for the last ten days hot, dry weather following on so much rain, has seriously hurt them; unless we get rain soon, crop will be light. Raspberries wintered well. Currants and gooseberries are also looking well. Above is a fair average report given by my growers.

WELLINGTON BOULTER, *Pictou.*

Ottawa.

SIR,—From my own observation and all the information I could get since I received yours of the 23rd inst., the fruit prospects in this district are as follows:

Strawberries, very badly winter-killed, not over a quarter crop. Raspberries, an average crop. Currants, over an average. Gooseber-

ries, a very heavy crop, the largest for many years. Grapes, promise well. Cherries, light and not set well. Plums, domestic varieties, none; American varieties, a light yield; native red, much below the average. Apples, notwithstanding the enormous yield of last year, promise nearly an average crop.

R. B. WHYTE, *Ottawa.*

Grenville.

SIR,—The apple crop in this section will not be more than 30 per cent. of a full crop in fall and early winter varieties, and Canada Red and Talman Sweet, about 40 per cent. The blossom was fairly large, considering the abundant crop of last year, but the cold weather of the first week in June and the frost of June 2nd, injured the young apples that were just forming, so that trees that were covered with bloom are carrying about half a crop of fruit, and orchards a few miles back from the river are carrying very little.

As predicted in my last report in the June issue, the fungus is unusually bad and tent caterpillars very numerous; some orchards are also suffering from the ravages of the case bearer and bud moth.

Strawberries are a fair average crop, but very late, only making their first appearance on the market, in small quantities, at this date, June 24th.

Plums are a failure, no fruit has set, even on fence corner varieties. Pears showed an abundant bloom, about half of the fruit set; very few grown here. Raspberries give promise of a large crop.

HAROLD JONES, *Maitland.*

Huron Co.

SIR,—Along the lake, a large crop of currants and gooseberries, strawberries, pears, cherries and plums. The first four of these will be a crop that may be placed at full; cherries and plums a good large crop, all that the trees can bear and give good samples.

Apples are set and will give nearly a half crop in fall varieties, over a half crop in Spy, and under a half in several other winter kinds. Of course this is only an estimate, as a great many will fall yet. The actual present outlook is large in many apple orchards. Personally, I am thinning out the fruit in both apples and pears, as I consider the crop too large for the trees.

A. MCD. ALLAN, *Goderich.*

MR. W. E. SHERRINGTON, of Walkerton, writes that apple scab appeared in Bruce County about the middle of June. The fruit crop is otherwise very promising—particularly pears, plums and cherries. Japan plums are doing well so far, especially the Burbank and Abundance.