

The Horticulturist offers his experience and knowledge to fruit growers throughout Canada who are free to make use of his services by corresponding with him, and by sending him specimens for examination and report.

He also attends, by invitation, and delivers addresses at the meetings of the Provincial Fruit Growers' Associations of Canada.

Specimens of fruits, new or old, healthy or diseased, are received and examined with interest and duly acknowledged. In this way originators and introducers of new fruits may obtain an authoritative opinion on their value, before offering them to the public.

The collections of hardy fruits now in the orchards and small fruit plantations at the Central Farm are large and instructive; each year brings additions and increases their value.

576. The Entomologist and Botanist to the Dominion Experimental Farms, with the help of one assistant, carries on careful investigations on the life-histories of injurious and beneficial insects, on the value of various native and imported grasses for hay or pasture, as well as on many other fodder plants. Particular attention has also been paid to the important subject of noxious weeds and their eradication.

The department is also made use of largely by those interested in the scientific aspect of entomology and botany, many collections of plants and insects being sent in every year for identification.

In addition to the annual reports which treat of the work done in the department during the preceding year several useful publications have been issued upon entomological and botanical subjects, *e. g.*, Smut in Wheat, Recommendations for the Prevention of Damage by Insect Pests, The Horn Fly, Potatoe Blight, Grasses and their Uses, Spraying for the Destruction of Injurious Insects, &c., &c. Successful efforts have been made to get into touch with the best practical farmers and fruit growers in all parts of the Dominion, so as to be apprised of the fact promptly whenever any outbreak of an agricultural enemy might occur, in order that the best remedy might be applied without delay. By a prompt attention to the many correspondents who write to the entomologist and botanist and by the publication of timely articles in the agricultural and daily press the importance of this department has been made widely known among the farmers of Canada as a source of trustworthy information upon all subjects which come within its scope.

577. The Chemical Division of the Dominion Experimental Farms, under the direction of the Chemist, comprises a branch of the work that is becoming recognized by the farmers of Canada as one of great importance. The intimate relationship between chemistry and agriculture, and the value of chemical knowledge as applied to the economic and profitable carrying on of farming work, are facts now generally admitted by all who are obtaining for themselves a position in the front rank of modern and progressive agriculture.

Like the other divisions of the Farm work this branch has a large correspondence, numerous inquiries being received daily from all over the Dominion from farmers wishful to obtain advice and information respecting