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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA

AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

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PROPERTY

Fruit and Vegetable Crop Report

Ottawa, October 19, 1938 - The Dominion Bureau of Statistics in co-operation with the Fruit Branch of the Department of Agriculture and the Provincial Departments of Agriculture issues to-day a report summarizing conditions during the growing and harvesting seasons, together with estimates of production and comparative data for last year.

SUMMARY

Although the prospects for a large crop of apples in Canada were not very bright during the early part of the season, subsequent weather conditions have so improved the crop that the preliminary estimates show a slight increase over last year. The early reports from Nova Scotia showed a light set of fruit and a heavier than usual June drop. In New Brunswick and Quebec conditions were reported to be similar. As the season progressed the prospects in Nova Scotia brightened considerably, and with larger fruit and little or no damage from wind, the present estimates show the crop to be the second largest on record. Conditions in New Brunswick and Quebec were not so favourable. Added to the poor set of fruit, the Quebec apples were severely affected by the heavy wind in September. Although the October estimates for New Brunswick are slightly higher than those of September, production is below the 1937 figure.

The Ontario fruit also developed well after a poor start. Most of the increase in this province was a result of the heavy set of fruit in the eastern section. In the western section the crop is lighter than in 1937, but taking the province as a whole the latest estimates show an increase of 12 per cent over last year. The heavy wind in September had no serious affect, damage being confined to limited areas. The other fruits all showed an increase in production over last year with the exception of grapes. The set of this fruit was not nearly as heavy, and as a result there was a substantial reduction in estimates. Of the stone fruits, peaches and cherries registered the greatest gains.

The spring reports from British Columbia showed the weather to be exceedingly dry. Small fruit suffered somewhat from the lack of moisture but the tree fruits were unaffected. Although early reports indicated a lighter apple crop than in 1937, growing conditions during the summer were favourable and at present the crop, slightly below that of last year, is larger than at first anticipated. Apricot production is considerably heavier than last year and shows a continued recovery from the crop failure of two years ago. The other tree and bush fruit show gains over the previous year and in spite of the dry weather, strawberry production also increased.

Canadian export shipments of apples in barrels, although slow in getting under way, have overtaken and are now considerably above the shipments for the same period last year. Up until the week ending October 6 the exports of apples in barrels were less this year than last, while box shipments have been heavier from the beginning of the season. According to a report issued by the Marketing Service of the Department of Agriculture, the exports on October 13, in terms of barrels, were 688,363 as compared with 544,066 barrels on October 15, 1937.

The vegetable crops during the season have been reported to be average to better than average for the Dominion as a whole. In eastern Canada warm weather, with an abundance of moisture, brought on most vegetables in large quantities although in Quebec good cauliflower and cabbage were scarce during July and August. Conditions, however, were ideal for the growth of onions, carrots, beets, turnips and tomatoes. In Manitoba the crops were average or below, but here too onions were reported to be growing well. In British Columbia the hot, dry weather early in the season caused some setback to vegetables but later reports showed that the supply on all markets was abundant.

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1. The first of the three main principles of the theory of the origin of life is that life is a result of the action of natural forces.

2. The second principle is that life is a result of the action of natural forces, and that the action of these forces is governed by the laws of nature.

3. The third principle is that life is a result of the action of natural forces, and that the action of these forces is governed by the laws of nature. The action of these forces is governed by the laws of nature, and the action of these forces is governed by the laws of nature.

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During the last month conditions have continued to be favourable for the growth of most vegetables, although considerable disease on potatoes in eastern Canada is reported. The cabbage crop in Quebec is expected to be one of the best in recent years, but cauliflowers are lighter than usual. Disease on onions, as a result of the poor drying weather during the ripening season in Ontario, has reduced the quantity available for storage.

MARITIME PROVINCES

The weather during the past month has been ideal for the development and colouring of the apples throughout the Maritime Provinces. To date there has been no wind and as a result, the losses from this source will be at a minimum. Although some light frosts have been reported, they have not been severe enough to cause any apparent damage. The weather, for the most part, has been warm during the day and cool at night with occasional scattered showers. Reports from Nova Scotia indicate the production of a near record crop. The fruit for the most part is larger than normal and judging from the high colour and lack of damage from either insects or disease, the crop should produce a higher percentage than usual of the better grades. The lack of wind this fall has also aided in increasing the quality and losses from windfall should not be large if the present weather continues. Picking is well advanced for this time of year, being ten days ahead of normal. Reports show as high as 90 per cent of the crop harvested on October 10. Export shipments are well in advance of last year and domestic demand remains brisk at good prices. The local demand is at present for No. 3 and Domestic Fall varieties. The latest estimate of the apple crop in Nova Scotia puts production at 2,400,000 barrels as against 2,250,000 barrels in 1937 or an increase of 6.67 per cent. The New Brunswick estimates show the production of 32,000 barrels as compared with 44,000 barrels in 1937 or a reduction of 27 per cent.

The reports of the vegetable crops in Nova Scotia are somewhat varied. Potatoes are practically all dug and in some cases are showing considerable rot. Turnips, on the other hand, are still in the ground and are making good growth. The crop, generally, has greatly improved during the past ten days. With the continued warm weather cabbages have benefited considerably, the heads firming up well with little damage from insects reported.

In New Brunswick the harvesting of potatoes is being rushed during the dry spells, with some farmers reporting their crops already dug. In Prince Edward Island, late blight of potatoes is widespread, but well-sprayed fields are showing very little damage. Turnips, on the other hand, are reported to be developing well and are of very good quality with yields heavy.

QUEBEC

The apple crop is of very high colour this year and the size larger than usual. Harvesting is well advanced, and is practically completed in the Montreal area. Severe wind and hail storms in September caused considerable dropping of the fruit throughout the province. McIntosh suffered the greatest losses with Fameuse less affected due to their better clinging ability. The windfalls will be consumed immediately by the local trade with a smaller percentage of the crop than usual going into storage.

The estimates of the apple crop, by varieties, expressed in terms of percentage of the 1937 crop, as supplied by the Provincial Bureau of Statistics on October 15, are as follows:

McIntosh	72.2 per cent	Yellow Transparent	71 per cent
Wealthy	82.4 " "	Melba	58 " "
Duchess	87 " "	Other varieties	73 " "
Fameuse	69 " "	All varieties	72 " "

Production this year is now estimated to be 127,400 barrels as compared with 177,000 barrels in 1937 or a reduction of 28 per cent.

With cool, moist weather this fall, cabbage and cauliflower have greatly improved in quality. The late crop of cabbage is expected to be heavy throughout the province, while the cauliflowers in the Montreal area are reported to be rather small. The quality of both vegetables is good. Celery has improved considerably during the last month, but due to a tendency to develop heart rot, few crates are going into storage. Carrots and beets are now being harvested generally and the quality is excellent. The onion crop is still suffering from the lack of drying weather, and rot continues to reduce the marketable supplies.

THE FIRST PART OF THE HISTORY OF THE
CITY OF LONDON, FROM THE FOUNDATION
OF THE CITY, TO THE PRESENT TIME.
BY JOHN STOW.

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Potato digging is being carried out in nearly all producing districts and from reports the crop is expected to be less than last year. Part of the reduction is due to losses from disease as a result of the wet weather this fall. Turnips, on the other hand, are expected to exceed last year's production. With most of the crop still in the ground, growth continues to be excellent. The quality, as a whole, is reported to be good.

According to a report dated October 15, the condition of the vegetable crops, when 1 = poor; 2 = below average; 3 = average; 4 = above average; 5 = excellent was as follows:

Cabbage	3.3	Lettuce	3.7
Carrots	3.9	Onions	3.9
Cauliflower	3.1	Tomatoes	3.8
Celery	3.6	Other Vegetables	3.7
Sweet Corn	4.1		

ONTARIO

Fruit - In eastern Ontario the colouring of apples is better than usual on all varieties with the season well in advance of last year. The size of the fruit is above average, with some dessert varieties too large for the export market, resulting in somewhat lower returns. Insects and fungus have been fairly well controlled in most commercial orchards. The pack of No. 1 fruit is up to average for the district. There has been no frost injury to date, with the packing of Spys well under way. A heavy wind on September 21 and 22 blew down 15 to 20 per cent of the crop in exposed orchards in the district east of Oshawa.

In western Ontario weather conditions have been generally favourable for development and harvesting of all fruit crops. The size and colour of apples are exceptionally good. While scab and late infestation of codling moth were quite prevalent in some areas, fungus and insect pests generally are under control in well-cared-for commercial orchards. Hail damage is comparatively slight and confined to occasional localized areas. Damage by wind is practically negligible, the only serious loss reported is to one orchard in the Georgian Bay district. Conditions were generally favourable for good development of plums. Some brown rot was in evidence in most varieties throughout the season. No serious loss, however, was incurred. With the exception of some loss by brown rot in peaches, particularly in the Rochester variety, and a somewhat greater than usual amount of split pits caused by excessive moisture, the quality of the fruit was generally good. The quality of pears in general was exceptionally good. They have been practically free from insect injury, with the size above average. Plums, peaches and pears have now all been picked. While hopper damage to grapes was widespread in many vineyards, the quality of the fruit was good. Due to continued mild weather the light crop is practically all harvested and because of the low bunch set, production is estimated at 45 per cent below that of last season.

October Estimate of Fruit Production in Ontario Year 1938, with Final Figures for 1937.

	1937	Percentage Change		1938
		Increase	Decrease	
		p.c.	p.c.	
Eastern Ontario -				
Apples barrels	244,400	40		342,160
Cherries bushels	16,400	5		17,200
Plums bushels	3,500		35	2,300
Peaches bushels	-			-
Pears bushels	8,000		15	6,800
Grapes tons	-			-
Western Ontario -				
Apples barrels	500,900		2.3	489,400
Cherries bushels	85,500	30		111,200
Plums bushels	52,500	5		55,100
Peaches bushels	525,700	6		557,200
Pears bushels	177,500	8		191,700
Grapes tons	26,000		45	14,300
Total Province -				
Apples barrels	745,300	12		831,560
Cherries bushels	101,900	26		128,400
Plums bushels	56,000	2		57,400
Peaches bushels	525,700	6		557,200
Pears bushels	185,500	7		198,500
Grapes tons	26,000		45	14,300

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The percentage change in the estimated production of apples, by variety, from a year ago is as follows:

Apples	Toronto East	Toronto West
McIntosh	+ 15%	- 10%
Baldwin	+ 10%	- 25%
Greening	- 5%	- 18%
Spy	+ 300%	+ 28%
Stark	+ 20%	- 12%
Other late varieties	+ 20%	- 15%
All Apples	+ 40%	- 2.3%

Vegetables - In eastern Ontario a large percentage of the potato crop has now been harvested and the yield is a little disappointing in some sections, although the quality generally is above average. There are numerous reports that dry rot is developing in bins which have been filled lately. This is probably caused by too much wet weather. The onion crop was above average, both for quality and quantity, but growers had much difficulty in drying the crop because of the frequent showers. Celery is now being harvested and is mostly of fine quality, as there was much less blight development this season than last. All other vegetable crops were above average and the weather has been ideal for harvesting during the last ten days there having been no rain.

In western Ontario weather conditions have been generally favourable for the development and harvesting of vegetable crops, although the quality of the onion crop was materially affected by wet weather earlier in the season, particularly in Essex and Kent counties and the Bradford area, which has resulted in a lower percentage of good storing quality. Potato foliage was damaged by frost in the forepart of September in the northern districts, also all vine crops were considerably damaged in some areas in the early part of October.

Condition and Yield of Vegetables in Ontario

Condition prospects are based on the following system of reporting.
(1 = poor; 2 = below average; 3 = average; 4 = above average; 5 = excellent.)

	Estimated percentage change in acreage this year compared with last.	Estimated average yield per acre	Estimated average price to growers	Condition October 10, 1938
<u>TORONTO EAST</u>				
Beets (late)	- 5	9 tons	\$15.00 ton	4.2
Cabbage (late)	- 5	11 tons	\$17.00 ton	4.3
Cauliflower (late)	same	450 doz.	.70 doz.	3.0
Carrots (late)	+ 10	10 ton	\$16.00 ton	4.2
Celery (late)	+ 5	425 crates	\$ 1.25 crate	3.2
Corn (sweet)	+ 10	1000 doz.	.07 doz.	4.1
Lettuce	same	1500 doz.	.25 doz.	4.0
Onions	+ 10	225 cwt.	\$35.00 ton	3.2
Spinach	+ 5	3½ tons	\$60.00 ton	3.0
Tomatoes (fresh, late)	+ 10	250 bu.	.50 bu.	4.3
<u>Crops for Canning</u>				
Asparagus	same	3000 lbs.	.08 lb.	2.7
Beans (green)	-	-	-	-
Corn	- 15	2¾ tons	\$ 9.00 ton	3.4
Peas	- 10	1 ton	\$45.00 ton	3.2
Tomatoes	- 35	300 bu.	.30 bu.	3.2
<u>TORONTO WEST</u>				
Beets (late)	same	9 tons	\$12.00 ton	3.2
Cabbage (late)	+ 5	13 tons	\$13.00 ton	3.2
Cauliflower (late)	+ 3	600 doz.	.80 doz.	3.0
Carrots (late)	+ 4	11 tons	\$12.00 ton	3.2
Celery (late)	- 3	460 crates	.85 crate	3.0
Corn (sweet)	+ 5	1000 doz.	.07 doz.	3.0
Lettuce	- 2	1400 doz.	.30 doz.	3.0
Onions	+ 10	140 cwt.	\$ 1.20 cwt.	2.7
Spinach	+ 7	8 tons	\$25.00 ton	3.5
Tomatoes (fresh, late)	+ 4	300 bu.	.60 bu.	3.2
<u>Crops for Canning</u>				
Asparagus	+ 8	2100 lbs.	.07 lb.	-
Beans (green)	- 5	1¾ tons	.02 lb.	-
Corn	same	2¾ tons	\$ 9.75 ton	-
Peas	- 2	1 ton	\$42.00 ton	-
Tomatoes	- 4	250 bu.	.32 bu.	-

MANITOBA

Weather conditions in Manitoba continue to be exceptional. On few occasions have freezing temperatures been recorded to date this fall, and then only a few degrees. Unfrozen tomatoes are reported in a number of gardens, and late cabbage, late cauliflower, Chinese cabbage, parsnips, spinach and turnips continue to develop and to be harvested. These crops benefited to a slight degree by light rains which fell during the week-end October 8 to 10 in the Winnipeg area. Owing to drought, however, the condition of perennial plants, and especially fruit trees, ornamental trees and shrubs and small fruits is unfavourable to withstand the severity of a Manitoba winter; these are being irrigated where possible.

Harvesting of most root crops including potatoes is completed. Losses occurred in fields of parsnips and carrots where feeder and tap roots had been severed by the soil cracking. Generally speaking, potatoes are of good quality but disease is reported in some bins where the tubers were stored early. Many other vegetables placed in common storage are not keeping well on account of the abnormally high temperatures experienced since harvest time. Market prices of most vegetables have been about the average for the post-harvest period, with supplies more plentiful than usual on account of the open weather. Estimated yields for some crops in relation to normal follow:

Late cabbage and cauliflower	35%
Onions	75%
Potatoes	50 - 75%
Tomatoes	85 - 90%

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Weather conditions in all districts have been excellent for the harvesting of the fruit crop with temperatures somewhat higher than is usual at this time of year. Everbearing strawberries are still moving in quantity from Lower Mainland points. In the Okanagan and Kootenay districts the picking of McIntosh apples is well advanced and shipments of Delicious apples have commenced.

ENGLAND

The following extracts have been taken from the Export Markets Information Supplement VP-80 issued by the Commercial Intelligence Service, Department of Trade and Commerce on October 12:

The crisis in the international political situation has been the prevailing topic of the week. War preparations and activities in connection with air raid precautions have preoccupied the minds of everyone. In consequence, the markets have been listless, buyers being interested only in the requirements of the moment, not knowing what tomorrow may bring forth.

When the crisis was at its height the market would have fallen to extremely low levels had importers attempted to force sales. However, they wisely withdrew any fruit capable of being held, selling only varieties which were in a forward state of maturity, or other fruit for which a fairly reasonable price could be obtained. Although the tension has been relieved, it is impossible to say how quickly the market will return to normal conditions. Unfortunately some damage undoubtedly has been effected. A fairly large volume of fruit which should have gone into consumption has yet to be sold and fresh arrivals are beginning to accumulate with further cargoes now afloat expected within the next few days. Quality of fruit, however, has been on the whole quite good and should demand quickly return to normal, financial returns may not be altogether unsatisfactory.

Liverpool appears to have been less affected by the uncertainties of the international situation than London. Auction catalogues indicate a much greater clearance of the fruit offered for sale at auction or immediately afterwards, only a comparatively few items being passed, whereas in London no bids were received for a considerable volume of fruit.

UNITED STATES

The following extracts have been taken from the crop report issued by the United States Department of Agriculture on October 12:

For the United States a total apple crop of 130,100,000 bushels, 2 per cent less than a month ago, is expected. This total compares with 210,673,000 bushels, the large crop harvested in 1937, and 150,728,000 bushels the ten-year average production. Many apples in New England, New York, and Pennsylvania were blown from the trees but reports indicate the greater part of the windfalls probably will be salvaged. Commercial apple production, or that part of the crop which probably will be sold for fresh consumption, is indicated to be 6 per cent smaller than on September 1 chiefly due to heavy worm damage in the Pacific Northwest and severe storm losses in the Eastern States. The commercial crop is now placed at 77,155,000 bushels, compared with 115,501,000 bushels in 1937, and with the ten-year average of 92,821,000 bushels. Apples are sizing well in most sections. In Washington and Oregon, abnormally high temperatures during September were favourable for codling moth activity and excessive worm damage has materially reduced the quantity of fruit which will be available for fresh sales. Worm damage is also reported to be serious in Idaho.

For the country as a whole, the combined 1938 tonnage of apples, peaches, pears, grapes, cherries, plums, prunes, apricots, and cranberries is 21 per cent smaller than the combined production of these crops in 1937, but is 2 per cent above the ten-year average. Peach production totalled 52 million bushels, compared with 60 million bushels in 1937. Pears at 32 million bushels are a record crop and compare with 30 million bushels harvested last year. Prospective grape production declined slightly during September due chiefly to rain damage in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and California, and is now expected to total 2,499,550 tons, 10 per cent less than the 1937 crop. Prospective production of grapefruit is the largest of record and is 34 per cent above the 1937-1938 record crop. Indicated production of all oranges from the 1938 bloom, except California Valencias, is also the largest of record and is 10 per cent above the production of these varieties in 1937-1938.

Conditions to October 1 indicate a United States potato crop totalling 373,275,000 bushels, a decrease of 4,600,000 bushels from the prospect of September 1. This total compares with 393,289,000 bushels harvested in 1937, and 369,693,000 bushels the 1927-1936 average. Yield prospects declined in New England, New York, and Pennsylvania as a result of heavy September rains and rot development. Michigan growers expect an unusually good crop. In Wisconsin and Minnesota indicated yields remain on fairly high levels, although heavy rains in September have resulted in some reduction of crop prospects. Frost damage which is usually a limiting factor in these central States had not been reported by October 1. Insects and disease have sharply curtailed yields in some western States. In Idaho blight is reported to be prevalent in many sections. Insect damage in Colorado has reduced tuber development and in some sections has resulted in acreage abandonment. Yield prospects have declined sharply in Montana and Wyoming as a result of disease. The crop in Oregon and California, on the other hand, has improved somewhat since a month ago.

Estimate of Fruit Production in Canada, 1938, with Revised Figures for 1937.

	<u>1937</u>	<u>1938</u>
<u>APPLES</u>		
Nova Scotia	2,250,000 bbl.	2,400,000 bbl.
New Brunswick	44,000 "	32,000 "
Quebec	177,000 "	127,400 "
Ontario	745,300 "	831,600 "
British Columbia	5,798,300 boxes	5,352,000 boxes
CANADA	5,149,100 bbl.	5,175,000 bbl.
<u>PEARS</u>		
Nova Scotia	6,500 bu.	5,900 bu.
Ontario	185,500 bu.	198,500 bu.
British Columbia	302,600 boxes	342,000 boxes
CANADA	446,200 bu.	491,700 bu.
<u>PEACHES</u>		
Ontario	525,700 bu.	557,200 bu.
British Columbia	417,300 crates	462,000 crates
CANADA	664,800 bu.	711,200 bu.
<u>APRICOTS</u>		
British Columbia	158,000 crates	177,000 crates
CANADA	52,700 bu.	59,000 bu.
<u>PLUMS AND PRUNES</u>		
Nova Scotia	11,500 bu.	9,800 bu.
Ontario	56,000 bu.	57,400 bu.
British Columbia	392,700 crates	415,000 crates
CANADA	198,400 bu.	205,500 bu.
<u>CHERRIES</u>		
Ontario	101,900 bu.	128,400 bu.
British Columbia	153,300 crates	179,000 crates
CANADA	153,000 bu.	187,700 bu.
<u>STRAWBERRIES</u>		
Nova Scotia	1,400,000 qts.	1,120,000 qts.
New Brunswick	1,300,000 "	1,500,000 "
Quebec	7,909,000 "	6,168,300 "
Ontario	6,880,300 "	6,401,900 "
British Columbia	502,900 crates	615,000 crates
CANADA	23,524,100 qts.	22,570,200 qts.
<u>RASPBERRIES</u>		
Nova Scotia	86,000 qts.	68,800 qts.
New Brunswick	45,000 "	60,000 "
Quebec	2,443,000 "	2,800,400 "
Ontario	4,043,200 "	4,371,400 "
British Columbia	165,300 crates	182,000 crates
CANADA	8,600,800 qts.	9,484,600 qts.
<u>GRAPES</u>		
Ontario	52,000,000 lb.	28,600,000 lb.
British Columbia	2,384,800 "	2,404,000 "
CANADA	54,384,800 lb.	31,004,000 lb.

Estimates for British Columbia have been converted on the following basis: Apples, three boxes to the barrel; pears, box 42 lb., bushel 50 lb.; plums and prunes, peaches, apricots and cherries, three crates to the bushel; strawberries and raspberries, 12 quarts to the crate.



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