Round Whites were getting $2.60-$2.65, with the North Central f. o. b. range at $2.25-$2.60. These prices, however, were still two to four times those of a year ago. More than half the shipments of old potatoes were originating in Maine, though considerable quantities still came from the North Central States. The Chicago carlot market on northern Round Whites had declined to $2.40-$2.70, with Idaho Russet Burbanks at $3.35-$3.50. Jobbing markets for eastern Round Whites or Green Mountains ruled generally $2.50-$3.65. While the 1929-30 season for late or main-crop potatoes was far better than that of a year ago, the wind-up has been a little disappointing for those who held considerable quantities for the spring market.

Review of Recent Literature


The great abundance of species of the tuber-bearing section of the genus Solanum which occur in Central and South America is pointed out. The authors have established, by what is termed
the "differential-geographical" method, two centers of origin of the potato, viz., the Peru-Bolivian plateau and Southern Chile, including the island of Chiloe and adjoining islands. It is not believed that the progenitor of the cultivated varieties can be recognized at the present time. It is considered probable that primitive man brought under cultivation many forms and that the products of the hybridization of these forms make up the so-called species known as Solanum tuberosum. The subdivision of the present collective S. Tuberosum into a series of species corresponding in scope to the world species is deemed logical.

—C. F. CLARK.


The investigator concludes from his colleague's studies of the chromosomes of the potato and his own study of six selected varieties that all European and North American commercial varieties probably have 48 as their somatic chromosome number. In the forms of wild potatoes investigated it was found that Solanum muricatum Ait, S. chacoense Bitt., S. Jamesii Torr, S. Bukasovii Juz. n. sp., S. aracc-papa Juz. n. sp., have 24 as their somatic chromosome number; S. colombianum Dun. var. Trianae Bitt. n. f., S. palustre Poepp., S. acaule Bitt, var. subexinterrupturn Bitt., S. Antipovichi Bukasov, S. Fendleri Gray, and S. ajuocoense Bukasov, have 48 as their somatic chromosome number; the following forms of S. demissum,—recurvoacuminatum, longibaccatum, xitlense, tlaxpehuacoense and adpressoacuminatum,—have 72 as their somatic chromosome number; S. Commersonii Dun., S. coyoacanum Bukasov n. sp., S. medians Bitt, have 36 as their somatic chromosome number; and S. demissum (not typical), S. demissum x Majestic and S. edinesne Berth, have 60 as their somatic chromosome number. The forms with 36 and 60 chromosomes were known either to be hybrids or had morphological or cytological characters that suggested a hybrid ancestry. The 236 specimens of the cultivated potato collected in Central and South America were found to have either 24, 36, or 48 as their somatic chromosome numbers. All forms with 36 chromosomes had morphological characters of a meiotic behavior at the time of pollen formation that led to the conclusion that they are hybrids originating either from a cross of cultivated species with 24 and 48 chromosomes or descended from 36-chromosome wild forms. The cytological data presented is weighty confirmation of the supposition that cultivated potatoes have a polyphyletic origin.

—A. E. LONGLEY.