

Ontario Department of Agriculture

ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

Farm Crops.

Results of Experiments at the Ontario Agricultural College.

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INTRODUCTION.

Agriculture is the great industry of Ontario. The stability of a Province like Ontario is in its agriculture. Everything which helps the advancement of agriculture tends to assist in the development and the progress of the whole country. If this is true in the time of peace it is especially true in the time of war. The greater the amount of foodstuffs of the right kind and quality produced in Ontario, the better is the position of the Province to give assistance where it is likely to be greatly needed, in Great Britain, Belgium, and other countries. It therefore behooves the farmers of this Province to do the best they possibly can in the present crisis.

More than one-half of the tillable land of Ontario is at present in grass, or in those crops which are used for the production of hay and pasture. About one-half of the grass land is in pasture. Many of the pasture fields are old timothy sods and are very poor in productivity. This is owing largely to the fact that skilled labor throughout the country is scarce.

The number of *skilled farmers* on the lands of the world in comparison with the number of *non-producing consumers* will be considerably lessened owing to the present war.

Major-General Sir William Otter, in his message to the Canadian people, stated as follows: "Above all, measures should be taken to stimulate the production of foodstuffs. One of the greatest services which the Canadian people can render to the Empire at present is to increase our supply of food for the British people. This is at once our duty and our opportunity."

That much is expected of the farmers of Ontario can be seen from the address given by Hon. W. H. Hearst, Premier of Ontario, when he spoke at the Women's Institute Convention held in Toronto a few weeks ago, and from which address he was quoted as saying that "The farmer at work in the field is doing as much in this crisis as the man who goes to the front."