

*By Mr. Johnston (Cardwell) :*

Q. Do you find any difference between the effects of the fly and turnip lice upon early and late sown turnips ?

A. We have not found the date of sowing to make much difference in this respect. We are not much subject in this district to the turnip fly ; where this insect is prevalent it would probably injure the earlier sown roots more than those later sown. As to the attacks of the turnip lice, I do not think the time of sowing would have any influence on the injuries caused by that insect.

Q. What I meant was that when the hot weather comes, the earlier sown turnips seem to be affected by the flies and grubs and lice, while the later sown ones are not so much injured by them ?

A. We have not found any material difference in that respect in Ottawa.

THE RESULTS OBTAINED IN COURSE OF SEVEN YEARS' EXPERIENCE IN TESTS GROWING OF CROPS AT THE DOMINION EXPERIMENTAL FARM STATIONS.

I would like to occupy a few moments in completing my evidence in reference to the results had from the trial plots of the more important farm crops at the experimental farms. These have now been continued for six and seven years.

I may say with regard to the results of the seven years' tests of varieties of oats, that the Banner still stands at the head of the list, with an average, taking the results had at all the experimental farms, of 76 bushels 14 pounds per acre.

With regard to barley, the Mensury leads in the six-rowed barley, having given an average for six years of 51 bushels 29 pounds per acre, showing that these two varieties, the Banner oat and the Mensury barley, seem to be in point of productiveness above all their competitors.

The twelve varieties of spring wheat which have been under trial during the same period have given an average crop of 32 bushels 36 pounds per acre. The cross-bred wheat, Preston, stands at the head in this list, with an average yield of 33 bushels 58 pounds per acre, so that it still maintains the high relative position it has held in this respect for some years past.

*By Mr. Boyd :*

Q. Do you say that the Preston is at the head of the list for the whole of the experimental farms in regard to the tests of spring wheat ?

A. Yes, that is taking the average results had at each of the experimental farms throughout the Dominion.

Q. Is that the wheat known by us as the Red Fife ?

A. No, the Preston is a cross of the Red Fife and the Ladoga, which was produced at the experimental farm at Ottawa in 1888. This cross-bred wheat has produced heavier crops on the average than we have had from Red Fife growing alongside it.

Q. But it will not be as hard a wheat ?

A. Practically it seems to be as hard, but the question was already asked whether we had had it tested thoroughly to decide as to how it will grade, but we have not yet been able to do this. One difficulty in the way of testing these new varieties is to get them in quantities sufficient for that purpose, but I hope and expect to have such tests made before another year. In producing these new cross-bred sorts we have always to begin with a single kernel and from that to build up stock. Of course it takes a good while to get a car-load under such conditions.

Q. I may say from my own experience of twenty-two years up there, that I believe, it will not be in the interests of agriculture and of the wheat-growers of Manitoba to try and supersede the Red Fife wheat. I don't believe there is anything known that will take its place, or put Manitoba and the North-west in the position that Red Fife wheat has put it at the present time.