

Wheat Outlook Is Much Better

Seeding is Progressing Well throughout Manitoba and the Central West—Participation Certificates have Turned Out Well—A Week of Anniversaries.

By E. CORA HIND.

Winnipeg, May 12.—The prophet who declared that if the wind was in the north on Good Friday it would blow from that direction for forty days, came unpleasantly near being correct. For 33 days, almost without intermission, the wind has blown from the north or northwest, now however it has got round to the south, there have been some genuine thunderstorms, some very heavy rains in some districts and the long delayed spring is upon us in full force. The growth of the past week has been very rapid and farm work is going on with great vigor.

In the south west and centre of all the provinces wheat seeding is general and a considerable amount of work has been accomplished. In the northern sections of the provinces it will not be general for another five days at least as the land is very wet, the melting of snow having been followed by heavy rains. The question of reduction in acreage is much discussed and now fear is expressed that owing to the failure of the Australian crop and the increased likelihood of a world shortage of wheat there will be a temptation to seed land to wheat which is not in proper cultivation. However there is some of that done every year.

There will probably be large areas seeded to flax not only because the price is high but because it can be seeded later than other crops with a reasonable hope of its maturing before frost comes. There is also the custom of seeding it on spring breaking, (a vicious practice) which will be possible this year as the land is in condition to make breaking easy.

The Participation Certificates.

The great event of the week in grain circles has been the announcement by the wheat board of the approximate value of participation certificates; to wit at least 40c per bushel. The statement was made that this interim report was given out because farmers in all directions were being unduly influenced to part with their certificates far below their value.

Whether the fact that the question of the control of selling is coming up in the Dominion House almost immediately had anything to do with the announcement, it is hard to say. The Saskatchewan men, among them Hon. Charles Dunning Provincial Treasurer, and until recently minister of agriculture also, who advocate National selling are claiming that the value of these certificates is the greatest and best argument for continued national selling.

In view of the world shortage of wheat and the consequent increased demand the men on the other side continue in favor of the open market. It may well be that the interest of the consumer will lie with National selling.

In the meantime Saskatchewan figures that \$32,000,000 additional will come to that province from these certificates at 40c. The most hopeful have been figuring them at from 20 to 25c so that the announcement has come as a pleasant surprise. Manitoba's portion will run about \$20,000,000. Alberta had, of course, comparatively little wheat to sell outside of its own bounds, but the farmers who had wheat to sell will profit on an equal basis.

Manitoba had a very high percentage of number one northern wheat and sold large quantities at the \$2.15 figure, more especially for seed. With her shorter freight haul and her high percentage of the best grades it was figured that

Manitoba would average \$2.00 per bushel without the participation certificates so that with the participation certificates at 40c the Manitoba farmer will have realized about \$2.40 on an average for his wheat.

Anniversary of the Hudson Bay Co.

The city of Winnipeg was the scene during the week of a very interesting celebration. The 250th anniversary of the Honorable, the Hudson Bay Company. It is to be hoped that the wonderful movie pictures prepared for this event will be shown in every picture theatre in Canada and in every part of the British Empire. For the first time the real history of North Western Canada received its true setting, and the vast audiences which crowded the great Allan theatre, every one of the three days from noon until midnight, thrilled with the romance and the enterprise which had gone to the laying of the foundations of this country which is an Empire in itself. As the brigades of canoes shot the rapids all sense of its being a picture were lost, you were living again the great moments when a canoe just grazed destruction against a ragged rock and shot once more into clear water.

There is probably no country in the world which has more a romance in its history and there never was a country that has suffered more at the hands of the historians, especially those who have prepared the histories for our schools.

Sir Andrew's Forest Obsequies

When the President of the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association is persuaded to deliver an address before the Academy of Medicine on the Thyroid Gland, perhaps the newspapers will give the delivery as much publicity as the recent speech of Sir Andrew MacPhail on Forestry. Sir Andrew is professor of "The History of Medicine," at McGill University. He spoke before the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association on the economics of forestry and repeated the address before a Toronto audience. Probably five thousand people read parts of the address from newspaper columns to a hundred who sat beneath the speaker. The effect of the deliverance has been in direct ratio to Sir Andrew's standing as a scientist and editor, and without relation to his scholarly inexperience in the technical subject with which he chose to deal.

The Forestry Journal has not the slightest intention of considering the address seriously. We give below certain excerpts typical of Sir Andrew's conclusions. There are many men in Canada who hold such fragile opinions, men who have picked up a bit here, a bit there, but who do not muster enough audacity to put the product forward as a treatise on a complex subject, tested by two centuries of scientific effort, and by half a dozen great nations.

No, Sir Andrew, the principles of forestry, applied to the forest have given one European nation a forest property worth seven billions of dollars in not more than one hundred years. She grew it from stuff as promising as the Duck Mountain Reserve in Manitoba, if you've seen that. We can do things equally great in Canada. To suggest nowadays that Canadians have deliberately built up a pulp and paper industry with 250 millions invested, and an export business of

This is a year of anniversaries in Manitoba, for the Province is 50 years old. By way of celebration and to stimulate the interest of the growing citizens in the province the Department of Education has prepared for Empire Day a small beautifully illustrated booklet of the history of the province in those 50 formative years.

Under the caption "Progress of 50 years" we find that the one schoolhouse has grown to 2017, the population from 11,963 to 613,000. No crop statistics were kept until 1876 when 480,000 bushels of wheat was raised. In 1919 the value of the crops raised was \$163,000,000 and the sales of live-stock, dairy, egg, poultry, honey and other products \$191,730,000.

The figures of material prosperity and development, are, however, very properly subordinated to the figures relating to Manitoba's contributions to the war. This paragraph is short but pregnant.

"Just 50 years ago cables had to be sent to England to get permission for a small force of Imperial troops to come to Manitoba to restore order in the first Riel Rebellion. During the great war Manitoba sent to help the Empire a force of 61,543 officers and men, or over three divisions. No province has a finer record in comparison with its population. For patriotic funds the people of Manitoba raised by personal contribution or levy a total of \$6,000,000 or about \$10 per head for every man, woman and child in the Province. Manitoba's total contribution of Victory loans have been \$117,000,000."

Manitoba will celebrate yet another anniversary this year namely the centennial of the arrival of this year, namely the centennial of the arrival of West who came out in 1820.

The wholesome "Postage Stamp Province" will be much in the public eye in 1920. By the way I wonder how many people in the east know what the name Manitoba signifies—it is literally "God's Voice" from Manitou God or Great Spirit and Waba Voice.

100 millions a year, only to sit in the parlor car and watch the forests disappear and the mills rot,—No, Sir Andrew, that is almost improbable. It happens in Tien Tsing, but nowhere near Three Rivers.

"So you must not be too consolate and think too much of the end," advises the good physician.

Once a train came rushing toward a river bank; its speed was fifty miles an hour. Surely it must plunge to a fearful destruction! The faces of all beholders were blanched with terror. But it was all for naught. The train happened to find a bridge and passed across the river without vibrating a teacup.

There was a bridge in front of your eyes all the time you were speaking, Sir Andrew, but you couldn't see it. It was hidden by a Tree.—By R. B. in The Canadian Forestry Journal.

A Famous Motor Boat

At the recent Motor Exhibition in London, the most attractive was the famous coastal motor boat C.M.B.4., from the Baltic after many cruises, during which she passed through lines of forts and torpedoed the Bolshevik cruiser Oleg. This vessel is a skimover or hydroplane of the type invented before the war for sporting purposes. It attains a speed of 40 knots with full armament and crew. The show contained many British examples of small auxiliary motors which can be attached to rowing boats and other small craft. Some of these are installed on board and others are attached to the stern without structural alterations. One pattern, with an engine rated at 2 to 3 horse power, weighs only 60 lbs. complete with propeller and tearing gear.