

Climate.

The climate of Manitoba is warm in the summer and very cold during parts of the winter, with a clear sky and bracing dry air which is very invigorating. Winter usually sets in during the latter part of November and is nearly over by the end of March, although occasional frosts occur at night for several weeks later. Seeding usually begins about the middle of April and harvesting about the third or fourth week in August. The annual precipitation for Manitoba is about $17\frac{1}{2}$ inches, nearly 13 inches of which falls between 1st April and 1st October. The area of land estimated as available for farming purposes is over 30 million acres, whereas the acreage under crop is less than 3 million.

Soil.

The greater part of the soil in Manitoba is a deep rich vegetable mould of great fertility, with an abundant supply of humus. The proportions of the more important elements of plant food which exist in this soil, judging from a number of chemical analyses which have been made, are about double those found in good ordinary soil in Europe.

Chief Agricultural Products.

The principal grain crop in Manitoba is wheat, which is produced of excellent quality. The No. 1 hard wheat grown in this province and in the Northwest Territories brings the highest price and is not excelled by any other wheat in the world. The number of acres of wheat sown in Manitoba in 1899 was 1,629,995, and the total yield was 27,992,230 bushels, an average of 17.13 per acre. Oats stand next in importance, with an area of 575,136 acres and an average crop of 38.8 bushels per acre, followed by barley with an acreage of 182,912 and an average crop of 29.4 bushels per acres. The total yield of potatoes last year was 3,226,395 bushels; there was also a considerable acreage devoted to flax, rye, pease and roots.