

in the world. There is an entire absence of malaria, and there are no diseases peculiar to the country. The part of the province referred to has a continental reputation for healthfulness, and it is peculiarly favorable to persons with a tendency to pulmonary troubles. Many who have lost hope of ever again being blessed with good health, have found it in Southern Alberta.

## Wheat Is King.

In North America there are three, just three, great life-sustaining crops, and these crops are wheat, corn and grass. Permanently banish any one of these great crops from the continent and it would shake its foundations loose. To permanently banish all three of these crops would mean to depopulate the continent and render it as valueless to man as is the desert of Sahara.

Three great man and beast-sustaining crops—and the greatest of these is wheat. Wheat is as much greater than grass as man is superior to the beasts of the field or of the forest. It is said in Holy Writ than man shall not live by bread alone—but the ancient writer did not say that man cannot live by bread alone—for not on this round globe of ours is there grown another substance that furnishes to man so complete and so well balanced a ration as does Wheat. Wheat builds up and nourishes the human body, and it feeds the brain as no other vegetable or animal substance grown upon the earth is able to do.

Wheat is King. Wheat was, it is, and will be King, as long as man is man. And the wheat producing regions of the earth are and ever must be the granary of man. Blessed above all other places of the earth are those sections that grow high quality of wheat.

## The Bow Valley Winter Wheat Lands.

The winter wheat lands belonging to this Company are the non-irrigable agricultural lands of the Three Million Acre "Irrigation Block." They are simply lands situated at a somewhat higher elevation than the Company's water distributing system. Any agricultural lands that cannot be reached by irrigation are classed as "winter wheat" lands. In some cases these lands are surrounded on all sides by irrigated lands, that will be disposed of for mixed farming purposes and generally in small areas. It is scarcely necessary to point out what this means. The two things that give value to land are, first, the ability of the land to produce, and, secondly, settlement. There can be no question as to the producing abilities of our winter wheat lands, and in view of their proximity to the Company's irrigated holdings, they are located in what ultimately will be one of the densest agricultural settlements in America. We are, therefore, in a position to offer investors and farmers an opportunity to purchase land at a nominal figure that will, within a few years, rank among the most valuable agricultural areas in America. Not alone will they pay for themselves very rapidly in the crops they produce, but by virtue of their peculiarly favorable location they command a speculative value entirely apart from their agricultural worth.

## Bow Valley Winter Wheat Production.

As to the quality of wheat grown in Alberta let William D. Jackson, a former president of the Chicago Board of Trade, speak:—

"The samples of red and white winter wheat from Alberta have been submitted to our large millers, to Chief Grain Inspector Smiley, to the expert buyers of our elevators, and unofficially to the grain committee of our board. It was the judgment of all that the wheat, was exceptionally fine, and would grade number one in this market, which, commercially, is an almost unknown quality. Many here were aware that experiments in growing winter varieties of wheat had been made in the great Canadian Northwest, but few were aware of the results. The samples excited a good deal of interest, and several parties expressed a desire to own land producing such a quality of grain."

In looking for seed wheat suitable to the climate of Southern Alberta "Kansas Turkey Red" was selected as the wheat best fitted for this country. A carload of it was imported, it was sown and a new variety of wheat was brought forth. The wheat grown here, under different climatic conditions, developed into a No. 1 hard, and has been given the name of "Alberta Red." That it is a superior quality of wheat is attested by the fact that wheat grown in Southern Alberta from this seed, in competition with winter wheat from all parts of the United States, received the highest award, the gold and the bronze medals at the Portland Exposition held in 1905.

Winter Wheat is now the leading crop of Southern Alberta's unirrigated lands. The expansion of winter wheat production in Southern Alberta constitutes one of the most far-reaching Canadian agricultural developments of recent years. Never in the history of Canada has any single crop in any part of the country come to the front with such giant strides as has winter wheat in Southern Alberta. In 1901 the area seeded to winter wheat was less than 500 acres. In 1902 it was very little over 1,000 acres; 1903, 3,500 acres; 1904, 8,000 acres; 1905, 32,000 acres; 1906, 61,500 acres; in 1907, 84,000 acres; and in 1908, 104,500 acres.

The district around Calgary is fairly representative of the whole of the winter wheat area of Southern Alberta. We find there that the average yield of winter wheat since 1902 has been: 1902, 24 bushels per acre; 1903, 23½ bushels per acre; 1904, 28½ bushels per acre; 1905, 32¼ bushels per acre; 1906, 26 bushels per acre; and 1907, 21½ bushels per acre. The average yield per acre for the whole of the United States for the same years are as follows: 1902, 14½ bushels per acre; 1903, 13 bushels per acre; 1904, 12½ bushels per acre; 1905, 14½ bushels per acre; 1906, 15½ bushels per acre; and 1907, 14 bushels per acre.

Average yields never do a country justice, because the short crop of the poor, shiftless farmer cuts down the average yield of his more wide-awake and prosperous neighbor. And average yields are particularly unfair to Alberta, where not alone is the average greatly reduced by incompetent farmers (largely so through their ignorance of conditions and their calling), but because the country is new and much of the wheat is put in on first breaking and poorly prepared ground.