

the crop growing steadily, with no set-backs, resulting in a magnificent yield : while there are other seasons with too much, too little, or rain distributed at times when least required, producing light and damaged crops.

In the irrigated sections of Southern Alberta good crops should be assured annually, because there are no summer frosts, practically no rainfall, and the farmer can apply the water to his land as circumstances demand.

And, in the sense of regulating the elements, irrigation assures a larger yield and, in nearly all crops, a better quality.

The United States Census Report of 1890 shows the average production of wheat under irrigation in Montana and Colorado to have been 50 per cent. more than in the States of Illinois, Iowa and Indiana, which are recognized as being amongst the best wheat producers in the United States. The comparison is very instructive, and clearly indicates the great increase of production under irrigation—an increase fully justified by and handsomely remunerating the increased cost of labor. Similar comparison might be made of the quantities of other crops produced, and, perhaps, there would be found none more striking than potatoes, for the production of which, alike in quantity and quality, Greeley, Colorado, and several points in Utah, have gained world-wide reputations.

The quality and flavour of such fruits as melons, strawberries and apples, and vegetables like celery, tomatoes, &c., are very superior.

The farmer not familiar with irrigation and irrigation methods would be surprised at the simplicity of its application. The method usually employed in Western America, wherever irrigation is practised, is known as the "flooding system." The water is brought from the main canal to the highest point of the farm or land to be irrigated by a lateral ditch, from the end of which it is carried over the various fields in small distributing laterals. The last men-