

WINNIPEG SECTION

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 In Association with
 The Market Record and The Daily Grain Letter.

TWO HUNDRED MILLION BUSHELS.

This may be Western Canada's Annual Grain Yield
 Within a Few Years—Real Estate Active—Coal
 Miner's Strike is Serious.

Monetary Times' Office,
 Winnipeg, April 22nd.

The strike of the Alberta coal miners is having far-reaching effects. Already a number of industries in Western Canada have been obliged to close down for want of fuel, and a settlement of the strike appears unlikely yet. The Canadian Pacific Railway is considering the advisability of refusing to accept any more freight, and unless the strike is settled shortly, they will do so. President Sherman is endeavoring to break away from the United Mine Workers of America and form a separate union for Alberta and British Columbia.

Some of the men favor this move, but the majority of them desire to retain affiliation with the American body on account of its prestige. Before the strike occurred, there was a shortage of fuel throughout Western Canada, so the condition is now critical in the extreme. The miners say they are willing that the standard rates shall be continued with an advance of 10 per cent., with the minimum rate on outside labor of \$2.50 per day; that the wages shall be paid every two weeks, and that the 8-hour "bank to bank day" shall be established in all Alberta mines. They do not insist upon an open or closed shop, which means they consent to work with non-union men. They are willing to negotiate with any company without waiting for an investigation board. Severe losses throughout the country will be caused unless an immediate settlement is made.

No apprehension is felt on account of the lateness of spring in Western Canada, owing to the fact that in years gone by the best crops have been in those years when the spring has been late. In 1882, there was no seeding done until May 6th, and in that year the crops were exceptionally heavy. Old timers say the weather is more summerlike when the spring is late, and then the crops grow fast enough to make up for lost time. As yet there is but little prospect for seeding anywhere in Manitoba, but some of the farmers have started in Alberta already.

According to statistics seeding is later this year in Central Manitoba, than it has been for the past twenty years. In Western Canada it is no uncommon thing to have a heavy fall of snow at this time of the year, and although it does not remain on the ground for more than a day or two, it does incalculable damage to the sprouting grain. In short, prospects for a record crop are better this season than they have been for some years past.

What May be in Five Years.

No better evidence of the development of Western Canada, particularly Alberta, can be given than the crop returns for the past few years. At the present rate of progress Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta should be producing 200,000,000 bushels within the next five years. Twenty years ago no one would have believed the output of wheat, oats, barley, and flax would have amounted to 175,851,671 bushels, but these are the official figures. The returns for 1906 are not yet available, but they show a greater yield. The government figures for 1905 are as follows:—

	Manitoba.	Saskatchewan.	Alberta.
Wheat, bushels	55,761,416	26,107,286	2,306,524
Oats, bushels	45,484,025	19,213,055	9,514,180
Barley, bushels	14,064,175	893,396	1,773,914
Flax, bushels	326,964	398,399	8,337
Grand total yield for 1905	175,851,671		

In the three Western Provinces the greatest development is noticed in Alberta in connection with the growing of Alberta red and other winter wheat. The following figures show this development very clearly:—

Year.	No. of bushels.	Average yield per acre.
1903	82,418	23.95
1904	152,125	18.33
1905	680,010	21.41
1906	1,378,038	23.34

The increase in the total amount of grain grown in Alberta is shown by the following official figures:—

Kind of grain.	1896.	1905.
Wheat	792,417	2,306,524
Oats	1,734,197	9,514,180
Barley	279,826	1,773,914

During the past five years the crop areas increased as follows:—

	1900.	1905.
Wheat (acres)	43,104	147,921
Oats (acres)	118,025	311,804
Barley (acres)	11,099	80,900
	172,228	540,625

Thirty Thousand Alberta Farms.

In 1901 there were 9,433 farms occupied in Alberta, and at the present time there are 30,211.

Compared with the other provinces of the Dominion, Alberta leads as a wheat producer by a large margin, as the following figures show:—

	Spring Wheat.	Fall Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.
Alberta, 1898 to 1905	20.69	21.03	35.67	26.50
Saskatchewan, 1891 to 1901	19.88	...	34.98	24.45
Manitoba, 1891 to 1901	9.3	17.00	18.5	19.1
Ontario, 1891 to 1901	17.5	19.6	32.6	27.5
Quebec, 1891 to 1901	14.1	13.7	24.9	24.3
Nova Scotia, 1891 to 1901	15.2	13.4	25.8	23.5
New Brunswick, 1891 to 1901	14.1	14.8	25.8	21.6
P.E.I., 1891 to 1901	17.5	...	27.7	23.1

Compared with the American wheat producing States, Alberta also holds her own according to the official figures for 1905 showing the average number of bushels per acre for wheat, oats, and barley. The figures are as follows:—

	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.
Alberta	21.41	35.67	26.50
North Dakota	14.00	38.90	28.00
Montana	23.80	41.30	33.00
Wisconsin	16.60	39.00	29.60
Kansas	13.90	27.10	22.00
Nebraska	19.40	31.10	27.50
Iowa	14.20	28.60	25.80
Oregon	18.60	24.10	31.00
Utah	26.40	39.80	37.00

In addition to the cereals grown, Alberta is the greatest producer of sugar beets, and although the sugar industry is new for Alberta, it has every indication of becoming one of the greatest industries of Western Canada, excepting, of course, the raising of wheat.

The coming of spring has given an improved tone to the Winnipeg real estate market. While there has been no undue activity, prices hold buoyant and the demand is steady, indicative of higher prices in the near future. The recent bad spell has deterred small investors who apparently are influenced strongly by the weather, but the larger speculators and investors have been buying. Real estate dealers claim that 1907 will eclipse all former years in point of activity and high prices.

Townsites On the Market.

Throughout Western Canada a number of small townsites have been put on the market, and realty men claim there is a big demand for such investments. A notable instance is the Fishburn town site. Plans were drawn up about a month ago with the intention of advertising the site for sale by lots, but before the plan was completed a number of the lots had been sold, and the holders considered it would be unnecessary to spend money in advertising, and sold off the whole town-site without spending a single cent for advertising. Since then it is learned that two railroads are surveying lines into the town. This announcement has caused the lots to double in value within a month. Fishburn is situated some 18 miles to the south of Pincher Creek, a station on the main line of the Canadian Pacific.

BOARDS OF TRADE.

Meaford, Ont.—A committee will report as to advertising the advantages of Meaford to the outside world.

Maidstone, Sask.—This is a new town, and a board of trade has been formed, with Wm. Stone, merchant, president; and J. L. Courtice, secretary.

Hardisty, Alta.—A board of trade has been organized, with L. A. S. Dack as president, W. G. Whyte as vice-president, and G. Turgeon as secretary-treasurer.

Radisson, Sask.—The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, C. Dickinson; vice-president, J. S. Goodrich; secretary-treasurer, A. H. Clark; council, A. Boyd, S. J. Amson, R. Rae, H. Milne and F. R. Collins.

Brookdale, Man.—A board has been organized with the following officers:—Chairman, D. McNaughton; secretary, A. E. Millin; directors, Dr. Thompson, C. Garvan, J. Miller, J. Laurie, F. Ferguson, D. Baker, J. Hunter and J. McKenzie.

Treherne, Man.—The following officers have been elected:—President, J. K. Robson; vice-president, T. J. Lamont, M.D.; secretary-treasurer, A. L. McLean; committee, J. Coulter, P. Henselwood, G. Graham, G. A. Anderson, J. H. Ferguson, and T. A. Metcalfe.

ing into the local conditions fully Mr. report, not yet presented to the public, the main generally favorable to the

llowed him full and free access to their l gave him every opportunity to go into business. The rate is such a high one ardly likely to be satisfied.

e murmurings against the report. The tedly have declared they cannot afford They have submitted in support of ments showing that, notwithstanding va Scotia coal field, coal costs more in ntreal and other Canadian cities. hat the number of customers is too few y, but, of course, the price is in a large

lists have been looking to Moncton as tion of a street railway. The Moncton ent meeting decided not to endorse the

on the advice of the city solicitor. The moters was to secure the franchise of a d the city attorney advised against the oval to the proposal. Under the old of the city are not sufficiently safe- otters declined to make terms and con- e matter rests for the present.

wing and extending steadily, and the Trunk Pacific will give it a boom. The e to see a street railway, and the people any now negotiating will not let the

Well.

voted a free factory site and other ex- Chestnut & Son. They will manufac- Woodstock is grappling with the ques- r the bonds of the Durham Foundry ern desires to start a car works. Fred- and other places are after the enter- plans suggested to keep them in Wood- poration to guarantee their bonds.

ave a new candy factory. It will start May. The chief promoters are Thomas rates a large retail confectionary store, merly of the White Candy Company.

cal men, and they have the active co- of some men of means. The Mari- several large and very successful candy r products all over the Dominion.

e Railroad Commission visited St. John gated charges preferred by the St. John st the New Brunswick Southern Rail- was that the railway had not furnished a copy of its special tariff, and that a Ice Company, the Union Ice Company,

o put greater loads on cars than they ce showed that the St. John Ice Com- cally all the sources of supply in the f St. John.

pany complained that the only reason o drive them out of business. The St. nducted by some leading citizens. The y of W. E. Scully, a clerk in the employ ck Southern.

erous.

some damage in New Brunswick lately. e factory of the Restigouche Wood- t Dalhousie was destroyed with a loss o. On Saturday George H. Cochrane's s Settlement, York county, was burned.

ill. s in St. John are on strike for \$2.50 a ment of none but union men. They out the other part of the demand is not ded. At the present time very little , and the outlook for the season in that d. The Y.M.C.A. have received tenders me. An office building is being erected mill. A cold storage plant is a pro- ate dwellings are going up.

ment, as printed in the Monetary Times, e at such times as these. Each item of d with the previous month's figures, and with those of last year. The study of under such conditions, is a pleasure to er. Subscribers desiring to file it, with- paper, can obtain copies free of charge office.