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quality and more abundant yield of grain which applies as between Eastern Canada and the States applies equally between Western Canada and the States. Manitoba and the Northwest raise more bushels of wheat to the acre than Minnesota and Dakota and the wheat makes a better quality of flour—the best, it is worth while remembering, that the world affords. What is true regarding wheat is just as true regarding cattle. The more abundant and richer summer pasturage and the ample supply of good hay for the winter, where hay is required, have their necessary effect in making the cattle raised in the Northwest superior in size and quality to those raised on the less abundant and less nutritive grasses of the south. What is true regarding the cattle themselves is equally true regarding their products, butter and cheese, and also regarding the other products of the farm. This point of the superior quality of Northwest products is something that should be particularly kept in mind, for while the world may compete in raising wheat and cattle, no other part of the world can compete with the Northwest in the quality of these products; therefore, whatever prices may be, the Northwest will always get the best. In average certainty of wheat production the Northwest need not fear comparison with any other new country. There have been years of failure from grasshoppers and other years of partial failure from frosts, while last year there was for the first time a partial failure from drought, but from none of these causes have failures been as frequent or as severe in the Canadian Northwest as in the prairie States south of the line. In the time of the grasshoppers the pests bred and ranged for years over the prairie territories before coming into the Canadian Northwest. Their home is the plains and they never penetrated the partly wooded regions along the Upper Saskatchewan, in Northern Alberta. Although further north, being at a lower elevation and sheltered to some extent by the wooded country of the north, strange as it may seem it is nevertheless an established fact that the Canadian Northwest has not suffered as severely from frost in the past ten years as the prairie States to the south, and it is further an established fact that the more northerly and more wooded parts of the Territories do not suffer as severely as the open plains further south—that there is less frost along the Saskatchewan than along the C. P. R. line. To go no further back

than 1888, frost was general and severe in Dakota and parts of Southern Manitoba, while at Edmonton there was no frosted grain and at other points on the Saskatchewan there was very little. In 1889 there was frost in the last of May and early part of June throughout Ontario, the Eastern and Western States, Manitoba and the southern part of the Northwest and, absolutely none at Edmonton. Regarding the drought the advantage is plainly and altogether on the side of the Northwest and particularly the northern part of the Northwest. Where timber grows there is more moisture than where it does not grow, and as the Canadian Northwest is either actually timbered or is nearer timber than the prairie States it must have more moisture, and certainly has, than they. There have formerly been years of drought in the States when the Canadian Northwest enjoyed sufficient moisture, but last year the drought extended to the Northwest so that it was a test year. Those parts of Manitoba and the Northwest nearest the United States suffered most severely and those most distant suffered least. At Edmonton although the season was very dry the yield of grain was 19½ bushels to the acre of wheat, oats 26½ bushels, barley 21 bushels, a higher average than Dakota shows in its most favored year. To sum up, in Northern Alberta which contains the most northerly settlements in the Northwest, there is practically no danger of grasshoppers, no danger of drought, and less danger from frost than in Dakota, while the other wheat pests prevalent in more southern latitudes are unknown. Owing to the greater moisture in this part of the country there is a better growth of richer grass than elsewhere in the Territories therefore cattle can be raised more easily, cheaply and of better quality than further south.

WHERE IS THE SOIL MOST FERTILE?

In answer to the question, in what part of the region best adapted by climate for the raising of wheat and cattle is the soil of a depth and richness to ensure a continuance of abundant yields of grain and grass? In this particular Northern Alberta, of which Edmonton is the commercial centre, is easily ahead of any other portion of the Northwest. The surface of the country is gently undulating, and through the centre of the district the Saskatchewan river flows in a bed 200 feet below the level. On top is a layer of from one to three feet of black vegetable