

8,916,000 acres as estimated for 1913, or nearly 260 per cent. The area under wheat cultivation in the United Kingdom is about two million acres, in Australia it is 7,500,000 acres, in New Zealand about 350,000 acres. But, as will be quite obvious to any who have studied the question, this calculation leaves out a very important wheat producer within the Empire, India. India has nearly 30,000,000 acres under wheat cultivation, or three-fifths of the entire area within the Empire. Out of the total imports of wheat into the United Kingdom during the harvest year ending last August 31, amounting to 192,000,000 bushels, India supplied 40,000,000 bushels, Canada 36,995,000 bushels, and Australia 28,317,000 bushels, or a total of 104,000,000 bushels, as compared with 77,000,000 bushels from Russia, the Argentine Republic and the United States put together. The immense increase in the wheat area of the Empire has been followed by a correspondingly large increase in the quantity of wheat and wheat flour sent from within the Empire to the Motherland.

PRAISE FOR CANADIAN BANKING.

A good deal of praise has been bestowed upon Canadian banking from various sources, and the system compares very well with that of the United States, Canada's nearest neighbour, and with Australia, where conditions are in many respects not dissimilar. A good deal of the praise is due to the bankers, however, who show themselves very anxious to apply the system reasonably and cautiously.—London, Eng., Times.

A FEED FOR ELLIOTT.

By all means give Howard Elliott something to eat. Nothing is begun appropriately in this city without a banquet.

How many people there are who would like to attend a dinner given in honor of Mr. Elliott for the purpose of airing their own omniscience and oratory in honor of themselves. Don't all speak at once. It is not an invitation. It is a meditation.

Welcome by mastication is a good old Boston custom. Today we banquet our leaders. Tomorrow we brandeis them.—(Boston Traveler-Herald.)

VOTE BONUS TO RAILWAY.

The township of Leeds and Landsdowne voted upon a by-law to give a bonus of \$15,000 to the Gananoque and Arnprior Railway. The by-law was carried by a majority of 41, the vote being 190 for 49 against.

PERSONAL.

Mr. W. G. Ross, chairman of the Montreal Harbour Commissioners and Mr. P. J. McIntosh of Standard Oil Co., New York, have been made directors of the Montreal Tramways Company.

The retirement of Mr. Gordon Strathy, jr., from the firm of Gordon Strathy & Co., is announced. This leaves Mr. H. Gordon Strathy floor member, and Mr. Geo. H. Reeves, office member.

Ex.Ald. U. H. Dandurand has taken out a permit to build a ten-story office structure on St. Catherine Street, East, to cost \$250,000.

Sir Donald Mann who has recently returned from a trip to the Coast is enthusiastic over the crop prospect.

President Jas. Carruthers, of the R. & O. is on a tour of inspection of the company's property.

RECENT FIRES.

July 29th.—At Chataqua Park, the summer cottage owned by Captain D. J. Munro of Thorold was destroyed as the result of an explosion of a gasoline stove.

July 29th.—The Sydney Lumber Company saw mill was burned down. Cause unknown. Partly insured.

July 30th.—Gwenman Farm, near Brandon, the residence of J. D. McGregor was completely destroyed. nine persons narrowly escaping. Cause unknown. Damage \$10,000. Insured.

July 30th.—At Woodstock, the barn on the farm of Charles Bartley was destroyed by fire, including horses, farm implements and hay. Caused by a servant girl.

July 30th.—Fire destroyed the barns of W. B. Foyster Hamilton. Loss, \$5,000.

July 30th.—\$15,000 damage was done to the plant of the Reid Wrecking Company at Port Huron. Partly insured.

July 31st.—In Fort William, the storage shed of the Plumbing and Engineering Company was partly destroyed Loss \$500.

July 31st.—Collingwood. The summer kitchen of Mrs. Cannington was set on fire by a spark from a locomotive. Damage \$125.

August 1st.—At Cranbrook, the Standard Lumber Company mill was totally destroyed. Loss \$35,000.

August 1st.—Fire was discovered in lumber pile of the Paris Brick & Tile Co. Loss \$2000.

July 31st.—\$50,000 damage was done by fire in stocks and stores in Orangeville. The loss is covered by insurance.

July 31st.—At Lethbridge, Alta., all the buildings and 200,000 feet of lumber belonging to the Western Canada Lumber Company were destroyed. Loss, \$15,000.

August 1st.—Lower Valdez Island, 120 miles from Vancouver, is burning. The fire originated at Hughes' Ranch.

August 2nd.—The Box Factory of the Sable Lumber Company near Liverpool, N.S., was destroyed together with 300,000 feet of lumber, and several house. Cause unknown.

August 2nd.—At Hamilton, the stable of Simon Buchalter and three horses were destroyed. Loss \$650. No insurance.

August 3rd.—\$7,000 damage was done in McGill Fireproof Block. Suspected cause, short circuit.

August 3rd.—About one-quarter of the village of Montebello, Que. was wiped out by fire. The damage is estimated at \$80,000.

August 4th.—The Cream Hat Factory, Toronto, along with several houses, was destroyed. The damage is over \$160,000.

August 4th.—In the Toronto Exhibition, the Sheep Sheds and Poultry Buildings were burned to the ground. Loss, \$40,000.

August 4th.—At Mont Tremblant, Que., the summer residence of Mr. J. C. H. Trudeau, of Montreal, was destroyed. Loss, \$3,000.

August 4th.—At St. John Parish, Island of Orleans, the home of Joseph Paquet was burned down. Seven persons were burned to death. Cause, explosion of lamp.

August 2nd.—At Calgary, the Dominion Auto Garage and contents were destroyed. Loss, \$50,000.

August 2nd.—Several buildings were destroyed at Erin Village near Guelph. Loss, \$35,000. Insurance \$20,000.

August 5th.—At Charlottetown, P.E.I., the Woodworking Mill of Mr. M. P. Hogan was destroyed. Loss \$25,000. No insurance.

August 4th.—The stables of the Hamilton Brewing Association, Hamilton, were destroyed. Twenty horses were burned to death. Loss, \$7,000.

August 5th.—Montreal. Fire did considerable damage in St. George Street.

August 5th.—Montreal, Mr. A. M. Wenner's Sash Factory was destroyed. Loss \$7,000.