

the crop which grow on one of the large fields of Mr. Leng's farm at New Liskeard this year. The field on which this grew produced last year a crop of oats, the seed of which went 40 pounds to the bushel. "There is nothing like the muck for good crops year after year," said Mr. Leng as we waded through his field of clover.

Alsike clover seems indigenous to Northern Ontario. Everywhere one finds it growing, along the railroad tracks and among the stumps in newly burned clearings. This is the clover in which clover is spoken of as being a weed. In the Milberta district adjoining New Liskeard, considerable alsike seed is raised for export. New Ontario is becoming quite famous for its clover seed.

Fall wheat is a never-failing crop in New Ontario. Bountiful crops of this cereal are grown throughout the older districts, and at Monteith, which is a comparatively new community, 30 bushels to the acre has been reaped in three successive years. It has been found at this experiment station that wheat increases its yield on being placed on clover seed, instead of on the new land. Spring wheat has not been found quite so successful in the northern districts. Where the country has not yet been well developed there is always danger of frosts in the fall before the wheat has quite matured. Of course these dangers also attended the opening up of new areas now considered immune from frost, and it may be interesting in this connection to remember that all of the land open for settlement in Northern Ontario is still south of the latitude of Winnipeg.

On account of its early maturing and shallow rooting habits, barley is one of the surest crops in the new districts. On the Monteith Experimental Farm this grain has given a good crop each year for five successive years. Peas are an outstanding crop throughout Northern Ontario. To the visitor from Old Ontario it is certainly marvellous to see the excellent stands of peas obtained in large fields throughout practically all the districts where farming is practiced in Northern Ontario.

For the northern districts and those just newly opening up, it has been found that the O.A.C. No. 3 oats is giving the best satisfaction. Last year this variety gave a yield of 60 bushels per acre at the Monteith Experimental Farm, and took but 90 days from the time of seeding until it reached maturity. This crop was sown on May 7th and harvested on August 5th, thus giving plenty of time for the fall plowing of this field.

One of the outstanding crops of Northern Ontario is that of turnips. With the black muck soil, which is characteristic of the whole district, turnips do exceptionally well. They find here the same soil conditions which obtain in all the important market gardening locations in America. At one of the farm visits on my recent trip, turnips had given bountiful crops for seven years in succession.

Northern Ontario potatoes have become well known to potato growers in Old Ontario for their excellent qualities when used as seed. Potato growers in the new districts of Ontario find very little trouble with insect enemies. The fact that northern seed gives earlier and larger yields when brought back to Old Ontario assures the potato grower in Northern Ontario of a steady market.

The Proof of the Pudding. It does not take a prophet or the son of a prophet to prophesy that Northern Ontario will one day make one of the finest farming countries in Canada. In the New Liskeard district, which is now some 15 years old,

ample proof is at hand of the beautiful farming country which follows the settler's axe in the clay belt.

The farmers about this district are now getting well established in stock raising. The Glangarry Stock Farm, owned by Mr. A. J. Kennedy, although only cleared some three years, already possesses buildings which would look well in the company of any farm buildings in Old Ontario. The large barn, 104 x 54 feet, set on a concrete basement with stabling for 39 cattle, is indeed a credit to the farm. The equipment of this barn is entirely up-to-date with water before all the cattle. Although so far Mr. Kennedy has been largely raising beef cattle, it is his intention to swing over to dairying shortly.

Mr. W. Yates, with his 45 head of cattle, has already made a good start in dairying. Mr. Yates is now building a large dairy barn, 54 x 90, in preparation for 60 cows next year. Further west, in the Milberta district, one finds a considerable rivalry existing in the ownership of fine barns. At one particular spot I was able to count 12 large barns in a double row running westward. These were along two parallel concession lines. When we find farmers who produce as much as 7,000 bushels of grain in a season, as they do in the Milberta district, we find farmers who are enthusiastic about the possibilities of this new northern country.

#### How Shall I get a Start?

While the majority of the settlers in the new districts of Ontario have started in without much, if any, capital, usually going north because they had made a failure of some other business, and have made good there, it must not be thought that money is a drawback to any settler. Many are the instances in which the men who families have gone into New Ontario with but a few dollars in their pockets, and by working out, building made enough money to pay expenses for the first couple of years while they were clearing the land. Everywhere one can find these men who, barehanded, have been out in this new country what are now valuable farms. At the same time the man who can bring in with him a team of horses, a cow, a few hens, and from \$500 to \$1,000 in ready money with which to pay expenses until the farm begins to bring in returns, is, in the opinion of many settlers whom I interviewed, in a good way to make a success in the new country.

It must be remembered that when one takes up a farm in a new district, it is not necessary to build expensive buildings. In fact, in any of the wooded districts, it is better not to build these because of the danger of forest fires. And in such districts forest fires are always to be feared.

#### Forest Fires a Blessing.

While the settler in a timber district may clear the land, the effects of a fire on his buildings, the feeling exists everywhere among the settlers that the greatest blessing that can come to a farmer in Northern Ontario is to have his bush burned over by a forest fire. When one has been over the district and has seen the enormous difference in the amount of labor required to clear up timbered land as compared with that which has been burnt over, he begins to see that, terrible as the fires may have resulted while they lasted, they have resulted in untold wealth to the settlers who are going into these districts. Not only have they cleared up the land, but for miles they have opened up the country to the rays of the sun and have allowed the snow and rains to escape much more quickly, thus greatly lessening the dangers from untimely frosts in the districts burnt over.



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