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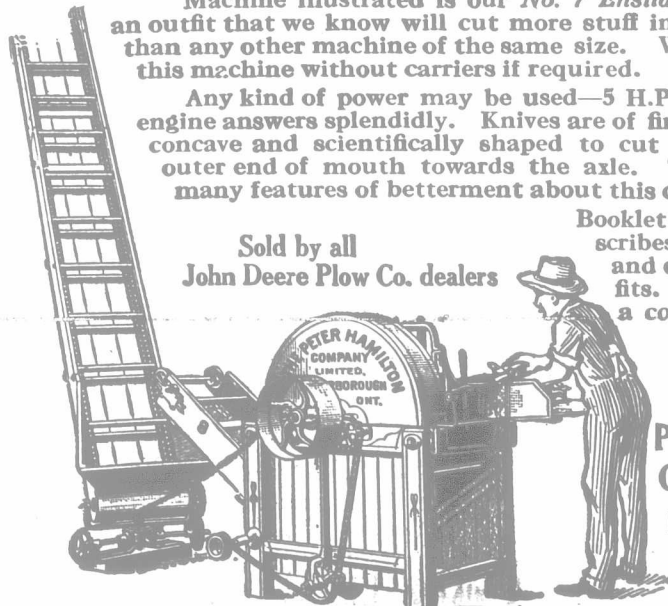
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Gossip.

The usual monthly bulletin of the Census and Statistics Office on field crops in Canada was issued August 15th. The reports made by correspondents on July 31, show that the condition of grain crops has undergone a marked change since the last reports for June 30, due to excessive heat and continuous drought during the month of July, especially in the Northwest Provinces, where the bulk of the grain crops is produced.

Measured by a standard of 100 representing the promise of a full crop, the average condition for the whole of Canada is returned for fall wheat as 71.5, compared with 78 on June 30, and 77.7 on July 31, 1913; for spring wheat at 77.4, against 86.3 last month, and 87.6 a year ago; for oats 77.9, against 87.3 last month, and 87.4 in 1913; for barley as 77.4, against 86.2 last month, and 87.5 last year, and for rye as 78.5, against 84.7 and 85. In the Maritime Provinces conditions show excellent, and in Quebec and Ontario, though drought is reported as having shortened the straw, the grain was said to be filling well, and the figures of condition, which for most of the grain crops exceed or approach 90, are not greatly different from those of a month ago. For spring wheat in Manitoba the condition is 68.2, against 82.4 a month ago; for oats it is 62, against 87.6; for barley 62, against 79.8, and for rye 68.5, against 100. In Saskatchewan the figures are on July 31, for spring wheat 66, against 90 on June 30; for oats 57.8, against 88.9; for barley 59.6, against 89.4, and for rye 74.4, against 92. In Alberta the condition is represented by 68 for fall wheat, against 73 last month; 75.4 for spring wheat, against 84.3; 71.5 for oats, against 85; 71.5 for barley, against 85.9, and 77 for rye, against 83.7. In some cases, Western correspondents state that there was still time for rains to effect an improvement before harvest, which would begin about the end of the first week in August. Crops after summer-fallows are distinctly superior to those prepared for by fall or spring plowing. Converting the figures of the standard condition at July 31 into those of a scale wherein 100 represents the average condition at July 31 for the six years, 1908 to 1913, the condition for fall wheat is 90; for spring wheat 93; for oats 89; for barley 92, and for rye. That is to say, the yield per acre this year is expected to be for fall wheat 10; for spring wheat 7; for oats 11; for barley 8, and for rye 6 per cent. below the six-year average.

Potatoes in the Maritime Provinces give an excellent promise, with figures of condition ranging from 93 to 96.

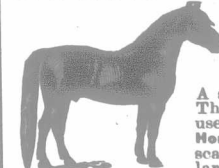
A preliminary estimate of the yield per acre of fall wheat gives 20.95 bushels, as compared with 23.29 bushels in 1913. For the harvested area of fall wheat in the five Provinces of Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia, amounting to 793,300 acres, the estimated total yield is 20,394,000 bushels, as compared with 22,592,000 bushels, the final estimate of 1913. The drought has naturally affected the yield of hay and clover, the yield per acre of which for all Canada is, according to the preliminary estimate, 1.15 ton, as against 1.33 ton the final estimate of 1913. The estimated total yield is 9,206,000 tons, as compared with 10,859,000 tons, the final estimate of 1913. The yield of alfalfa is placed at 129,780 tons, against 237,770 tons last year.

Trade Topic.

A feature of the Canadian National Exhibition this year which will be of interest to all farmers will be a model barn constructed by Beatty Bros., of Fergus, Ont., the well-known manufacturers of stable fittings. Several other firms will have a part in this barn, prominent amongst which are the Metal Shingle & Siding Co., of Preston, Ont., and the National Fire Proofing Co., who will build a "Natco" silo. Visitors to the fair will find this barn at the eastern end of the grounds, beyond the grand stand, and near the northern boundary. Every farmer interested in barn and stable construction should see this building, where men will be in attendance to explain all the features. The barn will be complete in every detail, and a good object lesson to those desiring to improve their stabling.

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