two years in succession, it means a great deal to him, and if the prices drop down to the level of the cost of production, even when good crops are obtained, it means a great deal more. And this is just the experience that many of the farmers in this productive country have been going through.

Oats and barley grow well, and in a normal season they give good yields. In some instances the yields are simply marvellous. In other seasons they are not very large. But these crops have not been given the amount of attention of which they are deserving. There has not been much stock kept on the average farms. In fact, on a majority of the farms no stock has been kept. Farmers have in very many cases bought their butter and meat, and even vegetables. There has therefore been much less of a demand for these cereals than there will be when live stock comes to be generally introduced.

Strange to say, peas have been but little grown, and those who have grown them are unable to tell, as a rule, how well they will grow, that is to say, how much they will yield per acre. But few have grown more than an acre or two of them, and more commonly they have been fed in the straw; so that at this date it is impossible to state with accuracy the capabilities of the soil in the line of pea production. But there is no doubt in my mind that in a normal season they will yield well.

Flax grows luxuriantly in this country, and it is largely grown. There is usually a good demand for it, hence the farmers grow it, and put it at once upon the market, just as they do with their wheat. It is no uncommon sight to see one hundred acres of flax growing in one field in the open prairie.

Rye is well adapted to this country, more especially to the portions of the same which are possessed of a light soil. It can endure the low temperature of winter. Many persons are growing it for pasture, to be followed by some other crop. And it is likely to be grown abundantly on these soils in the near future, in order to provide green manure for the same.

The average yields of these crops, as given in the statistical returns of the several states, give no adequate idea of the capabilities of the soil. There are several reasons why it should be so. In the first place, much of the land has not been well farmed. It has just been skimmed over in the most unmethodical fashion. It has been cropped for successive years without any change in the cereal grown upon it, and without any manure or other fertilizer. And, owing to the large areas of one kind of crops grown, much of the sowing has been deferred until the proper season has gone by. It would not be easy to estimate the average yield of cereals which the wonderfully responsive soils of this region would produce if they were generally tilled as they ought to be, and as they probably will be some day.

But it is fair to say here that the annual production in these states will not be as regular under any system of cultivation as in Ontario, unless it be where irrigation is practised, because the rainfall is not so regular. But the crops will average high.

The chief of the cultivated crops are corn, potatoes, and sorghum. These grow splendidly, and in almost any season. Corn will not always mature along the Canadian boundary, but southern Minnesota is admirably adapted to the growth of corn. And for fodder uses corn will grow magnificently almost anywhere. The crops of potatoes obtained have been simply phenomenal. They grow with extraordinary rapidity, and usually there is moisture enough to ensure a good crop. The growing of sorghum is given much attention in some parts. This crop is usually grown for making syrup, but it is now being grown for fodder uses, and its value, not only as a soiling crop, but for fodder, is very great.

The productive powers of these prairies are very great. The world has never witnessed what they can do. They will, doubtless, continue to yield up more and more of their hidden treasures as time goes on. Even on the plains away west, where the rainfall is decidedly insufficient, much of the land that is now considered unfit for cultivation will be made to produce like a garden. Irrigation in its various forms is being introduced in many places, and with results that are decidedly encouraging.

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Austrian Brome Grass.

L. H., Georgetown: What is your opinion of Austrian Brome grass? Will it be any improvement on the grasses that we now have?

ANS.—It is very questionable as to whether Austrian Brome grass will be any improvement on the grasses that are now popular in Ontario and Quebec, but it is different in some parts of Manitoba and the Northwest. Mr. Bedford, of the experimental farm at Brandon, has reaped good crops of this grass, and thinks well of it as a food for live stock. And Mr. McKay, of the experimental farm at Indian Head, has obtained results that are even more satisfactory. In the northwestern states this grass does better than many