

The World's Wheat Yield.

The annual crop estimates issued by the Hungarian Minister of Agriculture were published on September 1, the delay in their issuance having been due, it is stated, to the care bestowed upon the revision of the report. According to these estimates the wheat crop of the world will be 2,476,000,000 bushels for 1891, against 2,279,000,000 bushels for 1890, and 2,280,000,000 bushels, the official average for the last decade. The deficit requiring to be covered by importing countries is 444,245,000 bushels, against 378,664,000 bushels in 1890.

The detailed figures representing the production and requirements of the various importing countries for the year 1891 are as follows:

Importing Countries.	Production. Bush.	Requirements. Bush.
Great Britain	60,995,000	170,220,000
France	351,625,000	19,895,000
Germany	102,132,000	32,625,000
Italy	120,228,000	29,788,000
Holland	6,241,000	11,915,000
Switzerland	7,376,000	11,915,000
Belgium	21,277,000	25,558,000
Denmark	4,539,000	1,702,000
Sweden and Norway	5,106,000	7,092,000
Spain	97,876,000	12,768,000
Portugal	9,078,000	5,675,000
Greece	3,404,000	3,972,000
Austria	45,400,000	31,774,000

The figures in detail of the production and surplus of exporting countries are these:

Exporting Countries.	Production. Bush.	Surplus. Bush.
Russia	365,136,000	141,850,000
Hungary	151,098,000	45,992,000
Roumania	51,066,000	19,859,000
Turkey	20,793,000	5,675,000
Bulgaria	31,207,000	13,050,000
Servia	9,929,000	1,985,000
United States	408,528,000	70,925,000
Canada	42,555,000	15,603,000
India	258,167,000	22,696,000
The rest of Asia	58,158,000	2,897,000
Africa	48,370,000	5,597,000
Australia	42,895,000	14,185,000
Chili	24,114,000	9,929,000
Argentine Republic	117,506,000	73,762,000

The Flax Crop

Flaxseed, like almost all other crops, has felt the effects of the prolonged drouth. According to reports received in answer to inquiries by Bradstreet's, the dry weather is responsible for a considerable curtailment of production. The flax plant, which in this country is grown almost entirely for the seed, is produced largely and, as far as commercial purposes are concerned, almost entirely in the northwestern states west of the Mississippi river. Minnesota, South Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas figure prominently in the order named in production of flaxseed. Estimates as to acreage planted this year vary considerably, but the general conclusion appears to be that the acreage conclusion appears to be that the acreage planted was not much in excess of that of last year. Except in the state of Kansas, which is a comparatively small producing region, the weather for growing is reported to have been quite favorable, the early-planted seed having fared best, while the later crop was injured by dry weather. Except in Kansas, where conditions appear to have been generally favorable, the outlook appears to be for a considerable decrease in yield compared with last year and the year before last. In Minnesota, Iowa and South Dakota, the three heaviest producing states, the reported decrease varies from 10 to 30 per cent. Taking 20 per cent. as the average reduction shows in all states,

which seems a conservative one, the falling off in production should be not far from 1,500,000 bushels, leaving the total crop to be gathered this year at about 3,500,000 bushels. That a considerable decrease in the crop is expected is evident from reports as to prices. In nearly every instance reported, the advance in price over a year ago is given at fully 20 per cent., and in some sections as high as 80 per cent. Correspondents say the outlook favors firm and steady prices.

The Cheese Markets.

Brockville, Ontario, September 6.—The offerings on the cheese board to-day were 348 white and 1,153 colored. The only sales were 33 boxes white and 40 colored at 10½c. There has been some contracting to-day at 10½c for the three months of August, September and October, but quite a number of salesmen are holding for higher figures and will not accept the price offered.

Listowell, Ontario, September 6.—At the cheese board to-day, 38 factories boarding 11,435 boxes August cheese. The bidding was free at 10½ to 10¾c, which was refused. The sales were confined to two lots of 325 boxes Newry at 11c, 600 boxes Elma at 11½c.

Woodstock, September 6.—Buyers offered 10½c for finest, and still salesmen are looking for more. 3,205 boxes were offered, four lots all August, the balance first half of month. Only two lots were sold at 10½c. Other factories were offered from 10¼ to 10 7-16c, but were holding for 10½c.

The Montreal Gazette of September 7, says: "The position of affairs in cheese is not much altered from that of a week ago. Influenced by the steadily advancing prices that are being paid in the country, the tone, so far as this side is concerned, is firm, and it does not look now as if we were going to have any decline previous to the wind up of affairs in the country. With the exception of the districts west of Toronto, the Eastern Townships, and down the river below here, factorymen have practically contracted for the entire balance of their make at prices ranging from 10½ to 10¾c, or ¾c more than the figures realized last year. It is approximated that the quantity so held under contract is in the vicinity of 100,000 boxes, basing the fall output in the districts in question on that of previous seasons. This means with the quantity of earlier goods already in cold store considerably over 400,000 boxes of cheese. In addition to all this, as we have said, there is the make of September and balance yet to market west of Toronto; the factorymen generally in the Eastern townships still have their August goods and balance, and though those in the French country are sold well up to date, they will not contract for the balance. The fall output of all these sections must foot up to a pretty respectable total, so that there will be quite a quantity of cheese yet to send across the Atlantic, and at the same time the oft-repeated fact has to be borne in mind that the English make is greatly in excess of last year. On these foundations there does not appear to be much warrant for the payment of the extra prices that the factorymen have been receiving this year."

Silver.

Eastern demands, whether genuine or speculative, appear to have been satisfied for the present, and the London market exhibited further depression on what are described as "sales from America." Whatever the source, the London market certainly lost all its recent firmness, the quotations falling from 30½d per ounce to 29½d, while the New York commercial price for assay bars exhibited similar weakness, declining from 66½ to 65½c per ounce. Silver prices on Sept. 7, London, 29½d; New York, 65½c.

Montreal Paint Prices.

The market for paints, oils, leads and glass continues to rule quiet. The market abroad continues to rule firmer for zinc and lead, but there is no change here and not likely to be as long as the present cutting in prices continues. The recent sharp advance in glass in the home market has not affected prices here any and reporters state that the indications are that it will not, as they do not seem to care to take advantage of a rise in values in other markets with our market in its present dull condition. In seal oil a fair jobbing trade has been done on the basis of 40 to 45c. We quote: choice brands white lead Government standard, \$1.75; No. 1, \$1.50; No. 2, \$1.25; No. 3, \$1.10; No. 4, \$0.75; dry white lead 4½c; red lead, pure, 4½c; do. No. 1, 4c; zinc, white, pure, \$7.25; No. 1, \$6.25; No. 2, \$5.25; glass, \$1.25 first break; \$1.85 second break per 50 feet; \$2.90 for first break per 100 feet.

Advices for cement from abroad continue strong, and freights have advanced to 5s. 6d. for September and 6s. 6d. for October; from London and Antwerp rates are 1s. per ton higher at 6s. We quote spot prices at \$1.95 to \$2.05 for English brands, and \$1.85 to \$1.90 for Belgian. The demand for firebricks has fallen off some, and in consequence the market is quiet and steady at \$15.50 to \$22 per 1,000 as to brand.

We quote: turpentine, 4½c to 45c; rosins, \$2.75 to \$5.25, as to brand; coal tar, \$3.25 to \$3.75; cotton waste, 5c to 7c for colored and 7c to 10c for white; oakum, 5½c to 7½c, and cotton oakum 10c to 12c. Cordage, Sisal, at 7c to 7½ for 7-16 and upwards, and 14c for deep sea line. Pure manilla, 9½c for 7-16 and upwards and 9½c for smaller sizes.

In petroleum business rules steady. We quote: Canadian refined at 11c in shed in Montreal for round lots, and 12c for small quantities. United States petroleum, 14 4-5c in car lots, 15½c in 10-barrel lots, 15½c in 5-barrel lots, and 16c for single barrels, net cash; United States benzine, 23c to 25c; Canadian benzine, 10½c Petrolea: 12½c Montreal Gazette, Sept 7.

The Burns-Stevens Failure.

The estate of Stevens & Burns, iron and brass founders, London, is to be wound up. At a meeting of the creditors held a couple of weeks ago an adjournment was made to allow the firm an opportunity to make another offer of settlement, it being thought that their financial difficulties could be arranged. They have, however, found it impossible to make an offer that would be accepted, and the assignee has been instructed to offer the plant for sale. It is at present mortgaged for nearly \$10,000, and it is generally understood that the mortgagees will buy the establishment in if it can be bought for a reasonable figure. In this event operations will be resumed at once. The sale will take place on Sept. 18.

Brimstone.

The decline in the price of sulphur, says an exchange, has during the past years been very large, and shows how a producer of a commodity may overreach himself if he practices extortion. Several months ago the Sicilian producer found a short supply of brimstone in the market of the world, and he deliberately "cornered" the trade. For a time he was very successful, but the American manufacturer, who is the largest customer of Sicilian sulphur, set about to solve the question, and as pyrites could be used instead, plants were changed to allow of that mode of manufacture. Then the price of brimstone gradually melted away, until now it is cheaper to use than pyrites. But it is expensive to change plants, and the American manufacturer is sticking to pyrites, leaving the brimstone man without his market here.