

working farmer of to-day is beyond comprehension. It certainly cannot be done. In Ontario perhaps from one-half to three-quarters of the farm labor is done by men and their families, who either own or rent their farms. Were there throughout the country seven or eight laborers to one employer there might be some chance of success. But when the proportion is very much the other way there is no hope for any high-handed business of this kind! While many a farmer would not object to a wage of \$2 to \$3 per day in the busy harvest season, when everything depends upon getting the crop in in good condition, there are few, if any, who would care to pay such an amount for doing chores and other light work about the farm.

Another Canadian Promoted

Prof. John Craig, who, for several years was in charge of the horticultural department of the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, has been appointed head of the horticultural department of Cornell University. Since leaving Canada, with the exception of a year or two, during which he held the chair of Horticulture in the Iowa Agricultural College, Prof. Craig has had charge of the field work at Cornell, and the extension of Nature Study in the public schools of New York State. Recently, upon the resignation of Prof. Roberts, as Director of the Agricultural branch, Prof. L. H. Bailey was appointed to succeed him, thus leaving a vacancy at the head of the horticultural department of Cornell, which Prof. Craig has been appointed to fill. He has been a most successful horticulturist and will prove a worthy successor to Prof. Bailey.

The Late, W. B. Watt

In the death of Mr. W. B. Watt, of Salem, Ont., which took place at his home on July 1st, Canada has lost one of her most successful breeders and farmers. He had long been the subject of a painful illness, and his death was not unexpected. His skill and genius as a breeder are fully attested by a brilliant record made by Shorthorn cattle of his breeding. He was a man of most trustworthy character, his word being as good as his bond. Mr. Watt was a native of Wellington county, having been born there 37 years ago. He leaves a widow, one daughter and two sons, Robert and James. His brother John, who was for many years his partner in business, survives him.

On August 8th entries for The Farming World Prize Essay Competition at the Toronto Fair close. If you have not entered there is yet time to do so. All essays must be sent in to the manager, Dr. Orr, Toronto, by August 25th.

European Crops

The Crop Report for July, published by the United States Department of Agriculture, gives information regarding European crops received from its London office on June 30. Advices from Russia are on the whole good. In some sections near the Baltic, conditions were somewhat discouraging. In some parts of Southern Russia there has been too much rain, but no widespread damage is reported. In Germany crops are reported as being from medium to good. In Austria conditions vary. Fall grown crops have improved since May. Spring crops have not maintained the favorable conditions of the May report. In Hungary it is expected that this year's crop will be below that of 1902, the deficiency in the case of wheat being 15 per cent. In France, estimates place the crop below that of 1902. The wheat crop has, however, improved considerably during June. The hay crop has been satisfactory, both as to yield and quality. In Great Britain, white frosts about June 21st injured the potato and other crops. Since then there has been more normal summer weather and growing crops have greatly benefited, and the gathering of the hay crop facilitated. The wheat crop is somewhat late and can hardly come up to the average in yield, though a continuance of favorable weather would improve the prospect. Late spring grains will need occasional rains to complete its growth, but for other cereal crops the weather can hardly be too warm and dry.

Britain's Fruit Crop

According to information received by the Fruit Division, Ottawa, Great Britain will have a small fruit crop this year. It is also stated that there will be an unusually good market for Canadian apples and pears. Apples will be scarce, the destruction by spring frosts having been serious and extensive. Though the outlook varies, generally speaking, if growers get half a crop they will do well. Pears have also suffered from the spring frosts and only one-third of a crop, under the most favorable conditions, is looked for. In some sections there is a fair crop of early apples, but these will be off the market before the Canadian stock arrives. The apple crop of France, Belgium and Germany is fairly large, but the quality poor.

United States Crops

The United States Department of Agriculture crop report for July shows a decrease of 4.5 per cent. in the corn acreage and an average condition of the growing crop on July 1 of 79.4, as compared with 87.5 on July 1, 1902, and a ten-year average of 89.8. The condition of winter wheat was 78.8, as compared with 77 on July 1, 1902,

and a ten-year average of 78.2; spring wheat, 82.5 as against 92.4 last year and a ten-year average of 85.9. The amount of wheat remaining in farmers' hands on July 1 is estimated at about 42,500,000 bushels, or about 6.3 per cent. of last year's crop.

The average condition of the oat crop on July 1 was 84.3 as compared with 92.1 on July 1, 1902, and a ten-year average of 87.8; barley, 86.8, as against 93.7 on July 1, 1902, and a ten-year average of 87.3; winter rye, 90.2, as against 91.2 last year, and a ten-year average of 89; and spring rye, 88.4, as against 89.3 on July 1, 1902, and a ten-year average of 87.5.

There is an increase of 0.7 per cent. in the acreage of tobacco grown. The potato acreage is less by 1.6 per cent. The average condition of potatoes on July 1 was 88.1, as compared with 92.9 on July 1, 1902, and a ten-year average of 92.6.

The Advantage of Draining

The comparatively wet season of 1902-3 will cause farmers to give a little more attention to the question of drainage. Even in a dry season a drain will not make the ground any drier, while it will prove of immense advantage in a wet season in carrying off the surplus water before it has done any harm to the growing crop.

So many varying factors enter into a question of this kind that it is almost impossible to give an accurate estimate of the cost of putting in drains. The cost of labor and tile both vary much in different localities. Some soils require a larger number of drains than others to remove the water. Where land has but little fall and its thorough drainage is contemplated, it will probably require a line of tile every six rods, or about 430 tile to an acre. Then there would be the necessary cross drains, which would run the number per acre still higher. Knowing approximately the number of tile required and the price of tile and labor, the cost of draining any field can readily be ascertained. Where the drains can be dug and the tile laid by the regular farm help, the cost is very little. Much heavy labor can often be dispensed with by opening out the drains with a plow. In this case, the furrow on the surface is opened one way and the second one turned the opposite way after which the process is repeated in the bottom of the opening made by the first two furrows. In this way one can often clear out about 18 inches, and the amount of digging that would have to be done would just be lessened to this extent.

But even if outside labor has to be brought in tile draining will pay, especially on fields on which surface water will remain. A well drained field can be worked earlier in the spring and will keep in better condition during the growing season.