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physiological disease in each case. Altogether they discovered an average of 23 per cent. of serious diseases in these three older counties. Moreover, the northern crops were more vigorous and promised far larger yields.

While large districts in the north are not yet cleared, it is one of the great coming agricultural districts of America. Thunder Bay District alone has 40,000 acres of the very best potato soil, a considerable part of which is already under cultivation. Many thousands of acres of good soil of a heavier nature will be available for potato growing in the future. As an example of how the industry is developing, it may not be amiss to state that four years ago the cities of Fort William and Port Arthur in Thunder Bay District were importing potatoes, whereas the district immediately adjacent now supplies those cities and exports to Old Ontario in the neighborhood of 140 carloads a year.

If growers in Old Ontario become once convinced of the advisability of planting northern-grown seed and are willing, by their orders, to encourage seed production in the north, New Ontario can be organized very easily to supply all that the older portions of the Province will require.

In order to encourage the development of a strong potato industry in Northern Ontario and to encourage also the planting of northern-grown seed by growers in Old Ontario, the Ontario Department of Agriculture has made certain definite plans to be of assistance this spring. All seed potatoes to be used for departmental purposes are being purchased either from Northern Ontario or from New Brunswick—a total in the neighborhood of 1,700 bags. Seed grown in Northern Ontario is preferred, but at the present time it is not possible to secure the quantity we wish of a guaranteed quality. With this seed bought by the Department some thousand farmers will be given small lots under the auspices of the Experimental Union. Some 10,000 school children who are taking part in Rural School Fairs will also receive small quantities. In every county in Old Ontario, the district representative will conduct demonstrations showing the relative value of seed grown in New Brunswick, Northern Ontario and in Old Ontario. Besides this, some 40 acres of potatoes will be planted by the Ontario Department of Agriculture on Government owned farms in Northern Ontario in order to produce foundation stock of A-1 quality for northern growers.

Besides this, it is planned to assist, to some extent, farmers in securing northern-grown seed. A few carloads of seed potatoes from New Brunswick of the Irish Cobbler and Green Mountain varieties, certified as to freedom of disease by the Dominion Government, are to be secured for the growers in Northern Ontario. This seed will be distributed at cost to farmers in three or four of the best potato-producing sections in the north. The freight charges on these shipments will be paid by the Government, because freight rates between New Brunswick and Northern Ontario are high, and it is in the interest of the Province that a large potato industry become established as quickly as possible in Northern Ontario.

So far as Old Ontario is concerned, it has been arranged to put farmers who wish to buy seed of high-class quality of the Green Mountain and Irish Cobbler varieties in touch with New Brunswick sellers of the same. This seed was inspected last summer in the growing condition by Dominion inspectors, was inspected last December in the bin, and will be inspected in the spring before being loaded. Farmers and farmers' associations, therefore, who wish to purchase seed potatoes in carload lots may do so at a reasonable price and with a minimum of work on their part.

Next summer the Department of Agriculture has made arrangements to have a staff of inspectors who will make a survey of Old Ontario to determine the exact disease conditions as they exist. Other inspectors will work in the north, roguing the crops which result from first-class seed being shipped in this year, and roguing also other fields of first-class varieties reasonably free from disease and true to variety. By the fall of 1918 it should be definitely proven just how badly Old Ontario growers need a change of seed, and by that time provision will have been made for an ample supply of first-class seed grown in New Ontario to very largely meet this demand.—JUSTUS MILLER, Asst. Commissioner of Agriculture.

"Kindling Fires in Cold Rooms"

ONE of the finest eulogies ever uttered referred to the late Earl Grey, once Governor-General of Canada:—

"He lit many Fires in Cold Rooms."

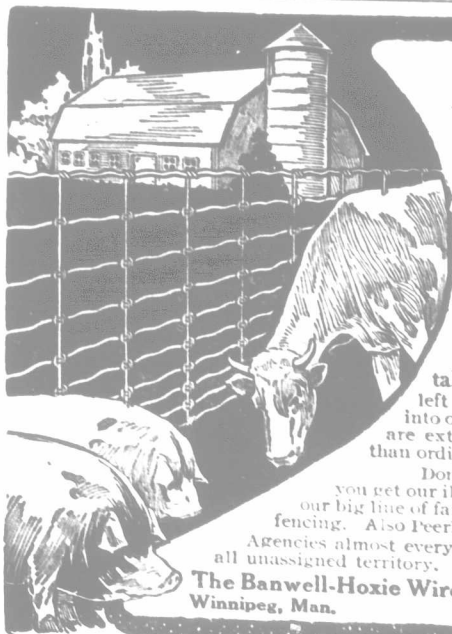
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