

good many bushels per acre short as compared with the very large crop last year, and threshing returns show that the yield of wheat is not up to the official estimate of 22.7, as shown by the August crop bulletin, which estimate, however, is only given as a preliminary one. In some sections the crop is light, but the average for the province is fairly good. Manitoba has not therefore produced a remarkably large wheat crop this year, but simply what may be called a good crop on the average. In Assiniboia territory, west of Manitoba, the crop is lighter than the average for Manitoba.

The quality of the wheat crop is all around very good, and infinitely superior to that of last year. Altogether, the quantity and quality of the crop is such, that with fair prices ruling, this would prove a very profitable year for Manitoba farmers. The difficulty, however, comes in in the matter of prices. At present wheat values, there is not much in it for many of our farmers. It will take a big yield of wheat to leave much margin at present prices, and unless a change comes in wheat values, our farmers will not have much profit from their year's work.

This is the way the matter should be viewed by business men. There is no reason to be alarmed over the outlook. Business men will require, as they always should do, to exercise the usual care and vigilance, and look for only an ordinary year's trade. Those who look for a big rush of business, and who think that it would be safe to recklessly push trade and extend credit, on the basis of the present crop, will be disappointed. — *The Commercial*.

A Famous Canada Dairy Farm.

Near Brockville on the Canadian side of the St. Lawrence river, just below the beautiful Thousand Islands, is Belvedere, the famous Jersey dairy farm of Mrs. E. M. Jones. The owner is a practical business woman, managing the farm herself, being able, should necessity arise to milk, separate the cream, churn, work the butter and prepare it for the regular customers.

By strict personal supervision and attention to every detail of the farm, the dairy and the market, Mrs. Jones built up such a reputation for her butter in the New York market that it was eagerly bought at \$1 per pound. But at present the increased tariff caused the yearly output of 7,000 pounds to be more profitably sold to one company in Canada. The herd comprises about fifty of the very best animals obtainable. All are thoroughbred, but actual merit as shown by good butter records, is needed to secure an animal a place in the herd. As the home dairy farm contains only eight acres of poor stony land, two other small farms are rented. Soiling is practiced, as there is no good pasture land within reasonable distance, the intensive farming followed furnishing immense quantities of green food. Besides the crop used for soiling, the small farms annually produce about sixty tons hay, twenty acres corn fodder, 1,000 bushels oats, 1,000 bushels roots and all the fruit and vegetables needed by a large household. Lately a few choice horses have been added to the stock, among which is "Officer," a noted \$1,000 saddle horse. The cattle, however, are the special pride of the

farm. At the head of the herd is "Canada's Sir George," the famous St. Lambert Jersey, and second to him is "Massena's Son" sired by a pure St. Lambert. The dam "Massena" gave in her sixteenth year 8,290½ pounds of milk which yielded 654 pounds of butter. Many costly prizes have been won by "Canada's Sir George" and "Massena's Son." Three of the Jersey cows have yielded a profit of forty-seven per cent. on the value of food consumed and all the herd give good returns, being excellent butter producers.

Eighteen years ago the Belvedere herd began with two Jerseys tethered on the lawn, and a few pounds of butter were sold to a neighbor. The wonderful growth of the business under Mrs. Jones's successful management has brought many requests that she write a book on the dairy and dairy farm. The world would be glad to know how this kind of farming pays and how one woman has made it pay, by personal supervision winning deserved success. — *American Agriculturist*.

Wonderful Alaska.

A writer on Alaska says: "You must recollect that Alaska contains 600,000 square miles, and it will be a considerable period before all her resources can be named with certainty; but relating to my observations and reliable reports of experiments in several localities, I will say that Alaska can raise about everything possible to the more temperate belts. First there are delicious wild berries of all kinds, and especially the strawberry, which grows in abundance and is of fine flavor. Within 15 miles of the great Glacier bay, our exploring party of 10 Indians and 3 whites picked enough of these berries to furnish us with lavish desert for 3 days. Nowhere in the world can finer vegetables and root crops be raised, while sheep and cattle raising has been tested to satisfaction, and encouraging experiments in grain have already been made. There is no doubt that the hardier fruits will do excellently in Alaska. As for the alleged dreariness of the country—it is a kind of dreariness that sent over 1,000 tourists into the country last season. It has spots of dreariness that rival the wonders of the Yellowstone park and the grandeur of the Yosemite valley. The glorious vision of the famed Glacier bay is worth crossing a continent to sea, and makes pictures on the memory that will last a lifetime.

Vegetation grows with tropical rankness to the south and west, while to the north the Arctic sun on the Arctic seas, glaciers and snow-fields invite the most prosaic men to regret that they are neither poets nor painters. But when I discuss the fisheries, salmon canneries, mines, and agricultural possibilities I grow tedious, . . . when I expatiate on the natural beauty of that country I am simply interminable."

A Famous "Rocking Stone."

The "moving stone of South America," one of the most remarkable of the many curious geological formations known to scientists, is located on the Tandil mountains in the southern part of the republic of Buenos Ayres. It is

known to the inhabitants, both far and near, both civilized and savage, as the "Rocking Monument of God," and many tribes of Indians really believe that some great deity is buried beneath it. It is an enormous granite boulder sustained on its axis by an almost invisible base, the oscillating movement being east and west, or to and from the mountain. The power of a single man is sufficient to put it in action, and motion is frequently imparted to the gigantic mass by a strong gust of wind. It measures 24 feet in height, about 90 in length and eighteen feet in breadth. Its figure is that of an irregular cone, the base upon which it rests also having the form of a pyramidal cone, its diameter being but 10 inches at the point where the enormous boulder rests. An early writer, in speaking of this oddity, says: "When the wind blows from the southeast, the moving stone may be seen rising and falling after the manner of waves on the ocean."

Manitoba Weather and Crops.

The weather has continued fine, and threshing has gone on uninterruptedly under the most favorable conditions, while farmers are getting ahead fast with their fall work. Threshing returns continue to show a lighter yield of wheat than was previously counted upon, and some returns have been quite disappointing. 20 bushels per acre is now perhaps an outside estimate of acreage yield for the entire exporting wheat districts of Manitoba and adjoining country west in the territories. The quality is showing up very good, and it looks as though half of the entire crop will grade No. 2 hard. There is a little smutty wheat, which will go rejected, and two or three cars of rather damp grain have shown up. This is due to putting the grain in stack before properly dried, as the weather conditions have been quite the opposite to cause any damp grain, and the general condition is dry and hard. Seeds of weeds in wheat are perhaps more prevalent than ever before. No frosted wheat has shown up yet in inspection returns, which is a pleasing feature. The quantity of wheat grading No. 1 hard is so far limited, and this is directly traceable to cutting on the green side. A large portion of the crop has been reduced in weight and also reduced a grade by cutting too green, otherwise considerable wheat which grades No. 2, would have gone No. 1 hard. It is thought that later marketings will show an improvement in this latter respect, as it is claimed that allowing the wheat to stand in the stack for a while will to a considerable extent correct the damage done by cutting too green. Early marketing comes to a considerable extent from grain threshed from stook, which is not as good color as stacked grain.

Grading on the new line of railroad to the Crow's Nest Pass is being rapidly pushed forward. It is expected to be finished as far as the Pass in about two weeks. No rails will be laid this year.

Operations on the new 40,000 bushel elevator of the Patron's Elevator Milling and Supply company at Boissevain, will be commenced by Head & Bossoms, Portage la Prairie, on Tuesday next. It will be the sixth elevator for Boissevain.