

retain heat, and differing also as to the amount of power necessary to perform the many important duties of plowing, harrowing, cultivating, etc.

Rains are more frequent and more abundant in some parts of the province than in others. Late spring and early fall frosts are more apt to damage in some parts than in others. Insects vary in their methods and places of attack. Weather conditions are as favorable as can be found anywhere, yet they vary sufficiently to prevent the farmer's life from growing monotonous, and make it necessary for him to change quickly from one kind of work to another.

The years of 1911 and 1914 have both impressed upon us many valuable lessons—the same lessons that the early settlers had to learn in the older parts of Saskatchewan. Nineteen hundred and eleven had much rain and an early fall frost, and 1914 had very little rain and early frost. This year all the area from the southwestern to the northeastern boundary has suffered from drought. There never was a more favorable seeding time, but little rain followed to carry the crop to maturity, and during July for three weeks very hot winds prevailed. The result was that over a very large area in the western part there was little to harvest. **But in every district one or more farmers had a fair crop—in some cases good crops—even in this very dry year.** It was not luck that favored these exceptional farmers. It was simply that they had outlined a well-thought-out plan for doing their work in 1913 and had worked strictly to the outline. All who had the opportunity of preparing land in 1913 had equal chances for reaping a crop in 1914. The method of these successful men was simple. It was based either upon careful personal observation, or upon the advice of someone who had observed carefully the general conditions that prevail in the district in question. The kind of soil and subsoil was noted; the normal rainfall and the time at which it usually comes; the prevailing winds; the kind of plow (mould board or disk) that does the best work; the amount of power necessary to do effective work; the value of the plow and harrow in conserving sufficient quantities of water for average grain yields; the depth of plowing for summerfallow; the best methods of preparing land for second crop after summerfallow; the best method of breaking and preparing new prairie for crops. These and many other things must be learned by someone before the agriculture of a district can become productive and remunerative to those engaged in its pursuit.

VALUE OF A GOOD SUMMERFALLOW

It is absolutely necessary, with our present knowledge, to have a part of our land well summerfallowed each year. Whether it be a third or a half of our farm depends upon local weather conditions. A good summerfallow is a much different thing from what many of us think it is. On the Experimental Field at the University in 1913, summerfallow was made in seventeen different ways. The fallow that was plowed June 1st, 1913, yielded in 1914, 10 bushels, 24 lbs. wheat; 12 bushels, 6 lbs. oats; 11 bushels, 16 lbs. barley more than that plowed July 1st, and the fallow plowed June 15th, 1913, yielded 10 bushels, 20 lbs. wheat; 7 bushels, 10 lbs. oats, and 8 bushels, 28 lbs.