ment in this Province the claim was made that Alberta possessed all the natural conditions to make it one of the leading live stock countries of the world. When farmers invaded the ranchmen's domain later on, and numerous crops of winter wheat and other coarse grains were successfully harvested year after year, Alberta's fame as the foremost stock country faded, and the world henceforth knew it only as a great crop-producing district. The advent of irrigation and alfalfa will again bring the live stock industry to the front rank in Southern Alberta; history thus repeating itself.

Where irrigated lands command the highest value per acre, and where the climate admits of the tender fruits being grown, alfalfa is still one of the leading crops, and greatly outranks in importance fruit growing and truck farming. It is not at present claimed that Southern Alberta will grow the more tender varieties of fruit, but it has been demonstrated beyond doubt that the irrigated lands here can and do produce alfalfa, which is regarded as being the more valuable and profitable crop in those States where it is grown side by side with fruits. Hence it is reasonable to say that the rich, virgin alfalfa lands of the Canadian Pacific Railway irrigation block are fully equal in value, acre for acre, to the most high priced irrigated lands in the Western States.

Professor Fairfield on Alfalfa Growing in Southern Alberta.

Mr. W. H. Fairfield, the writer of the subjoined letter, was born in the alfalfa district of Colorado. Subsequent to his coming to Southern Alberta, eight years ago, he was in charge of the Wyoming Experimental Farm at Laramie, Wyoming, and is recognized as one of the foremost American authorities on alfalfa. When he came to Southern Alberta he bought an irrigated farm and as soon as possible put the greater part of it into alfalfa. His efforts as an irrigator have met with such success that he has recently been appointed superintendent of the Dominion Experimental Farm located in Southern Alberta.

Dominion of Canada, Department of Agriculture, Experimental Farm for Alberta.

Canadian Pacific Irrigation Colonization Co.,
Calgary, Alta.

Dear Sirs,—Replying to your recent letter asking for my "experience with alfalfa in Southern Alberta, and my opinion as to its future possibilities as a forage crop under our climatic and soil conditions."

In my judgment there is a great future for alfalfa growing here, our soil is rich and deep and we have plenty of sunshine. On my private farm there are fields that are seven years old from which we obtain from two to three cuttings each season. To obtain maximum results under our conditions in Southern Alberta irrigation should be practiced, for with irrigation a heavy yield for each cutting may be counted on.

In my judgment alfalfa will become in time the leading crop on the irrigated lands in the Province, and eventually one of the most important industries of these districts will be the feeding of cattle, sheep and hogs. Very sincerely,

(Signed) W. H. FAIRFIELD, Superintendent.

Timothy.

Alberta soil has proved itself particularly adaptable to the growth of timothy, and returns large yields in this crop. It has a fine head and a sturdy stock, and grows to a good height. Three tons to the acre is no unusual crop, and it finds a ready market at from $12 to $18 per ton.

Last year a farmer at High River raised under irrigation a crop which he sold for $52 an acre.

Owing to the ever increasing development in British Columbia and the Yukon, these sections will afford a sure market for the timothy crop of Southern Alberta.

Sugar Beets.

No industry lends itself more readily to profitable development under irrigation in Southern Alberta than sugar beet production. With a view to encouraging beet growing, the Canadian Pacific Railway has arranged to reduce its transportation charges on beets from points in the irrigation block, east of Calgary, to the nearest sugar factory, located some 200 miles from that city. The Provincial Government pays a bonus on beets through the sugar companies, and other industries contribute as well toward the rapid development of this important industry. The result is that the price paid to farmers for sugar beets at the nearest railway station in the irrigation block has been fixed at $5.00 per ton f.o.b. cars. The average price paid for beets for the whole of the United States according to the last census was only $4.18 per ton. In the State of Minnesota a minimum price of $4.25 per ton has been established by law. The price paid for beets in Utah, one of the foremost of beet growing States, was $4.25 a ton, with an average yield of 11.4 tons an acre. It is generally considered that 15 to 16 tons to the acre is a fair crop. In the State of Washington up to 32½ tons an acre were produced by actual weight. It is only a question of a year or two when factories