

The Ontario government has let a contract to build transmission lines to carry power from Niagara as far west as St. Thomas and east to Toronto. The contractor is F. H. McGuyan, who made a spectacular separation from the Great Northern Railway Co., last year.

The United States department of agriculture is undertaking an extensive practical and scientific study of the use of timber shelter belts in the agricultural regions of fourteen western states. The idea is to obtain data that will be valuable to the farmers who are developing the western plains. The experts who will go through the territory in question, hope to settle once and for all which are the species or varieties best adapted to planting in the various districts.

Prof. Goldwin Smith, Canada's most noted publicist, celebrated his 85th birthday on the 13th.

The School Board of Victoria, B. C., objects to the Provincial Government's order to fly the Union Jack over the schools, claiming the Canadian flag should be used.

The Farmers' Union of Mississippi, it is believed, will, this year, endeavor to hold off their cotton crop, store it in warehouses, and sell only when the price reaches a point satisfactory to the Association, a price that will be remunerative to the producer and fair to all concerned. The Union controls 150 or 200 warehouses, in which cotton can be stored.

There are in Iowa at the present time 170 farmers' co-operative grain companies, with a total membership of 28,000, and a capital of \$2,000,000 invested in elevator properties. A conservative estimate of the combined resources is \$50,000,000. Against all this the grain trust will begin a "relentless war of extermination."

Farmers—and Farmers' Business

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

I was in a town the other day, and I heard that the annual meeting of the shareholders of the Farmers' Elevator Company was to be held, so I thought I would go to see how the company had done during the year, and I think sir, that the manager and directors deserve great credit for the way in which they carried on the business during such a hard year. But what surprised me more (and this is what I want to talk of most) was the small number of shareholders present, out of over seventy only about half were present. And I began to think and ask myself, Why this indifference among the farmers, that they would not come to their company's annual meeting, a meeting at which every one that held a share should have been, to have heard the reports, and to have made complaints if they had any? Some shareholders were in town but did not go to the meeting. Ask them why? Oh, they haven't time.

After the meeting was over, I thought I would listen to the conversation going on in different groups of farmers, and I found out the thing that you come across from time to time: Farmers kicking about things in general, and how the company was being managed, so I said to some, "Why did you not go to the meeting, or why did you not speak at the meeting?" They said, "Well, they did not like to, or they did not go." "Well then," I said, "stop your kicking now."

And that is just where it is, farmers, you choose men as directors to do your business for you, and you expect these men to lose one or two days every month in the year. When the day comes around for your annual meeting and these men ask you to come for half a day, to listen to their report, you ignore them, and you stand on the street corners cursing the management. As it is with this elevator company, so it is with everything else: you stand on the street corners cursing everything in general, from railroads' elevator systems to the small store keeper, but you yourselves will not lift, no, not so much as a finger to better your own condition.

How can you expect others to do it for you, and why don't you wake up to the possibilities that lie before you? No, but you will not do it, you will not meet together to discuss matters of vital importance to you, and so long as you will not spare a little time to meet together and discuss things, so long will you be narrow-minded, and think everybody is robbing you.

There is no need for more farmers' organizations, for we have plenty of them, you know them all without naming, but there is a need of a closer union among the farmers. We ought to be so organized that we could meet once a month, and just here I fancy I can hear someone say, "What's that man after, a crank I bet." Well I have no doubt you are right, but it is the fact just the same that if we would just meet together, and discuss matters relating to our farming operations, we should be more liberal minded, and we should be better able to overcome the difficulties that are in our way. As the proverb says, "In the multitude of counsels there is wisdom," and so by meeting together we should be helping each other.

Sask.

A FARMER.

Canadian Crop Report

The following statement on the condition of field crops and live-stock in Canada was given out by the census and statistics office on the 11th. The heat and drouth of July have lowered the condition of the field crops all over Canada, but less in Ontario and Alberta than elsewhere because the ripening season in these provinces has been earlier. Measured on the basis of 100 for standard condition as being a full crop of good quality, wheat fell during the month from 84 to 76, oats from 90 to 81, barley from 83 to 80, rye from 92 to 78, peas from 82 to 79, mixed grains from 84 to 81, and hay and clover from 87 to 82. Beans alone have not deteriorated; their condition at the end of the month was 75 per cent., or one more than at the end of June. The other crops show conditions for the end of July of 78 for potatoes, 75 for turnips, 73 for sugar beets, 75 for other roots, 77 for husking corn.

It was too early at the end of July to give estimates of the production for the lower provinces and British Columbia, but from reports of correspondents in Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the yield of wheat, oats and barley are computed to be as shown in the following table:

Provinces.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.
Quebec.....	1,575,000	37,008,000	2,289,000
Ontario.....	18,164,000	111,888,000	20,804,000
Manitoba....	56,164,000	54,202,000	21,184,000
Saskatche-			
wan.....	47,080,000	38,130,000	2,640,000
Alberta.....	7,280,000	28,026,000	4,773,000
Totals....	130,263,00	269,254,000	51,690,000

On July 21 the C. P. R. steamer Monteagle, the Japanese steamer Tosa Maru, and the Pacific mail steamer China left Yokohama together, bound respectively for Vancouver, Seattle and San Francisco. Each carried part of a consignment of silk bound for London via New York, the consignors experimenting to see which was the most suitable route. Each line was instructed to hustle the silk ahead as fast as possible.

The Monteagle reached Vancouver August 4, the Tosa Maru arrived at Seattle on the 6th, and the China docked at San Francisco on the 7th.

The Canadian shipment was delivered at New York on the 11th. Tosa Maru's load reached the same port two days later and by the time the shipment via San Francisco got there, the shipment via the C.P.R. was nearing the shores of England.

The race has been watched with keen interest by shipping and railway circles, and the signal victory of the Canadian route is expected to have good effect in increasing the trade between the Orient and Europe via the Dominion trade roads.

After a short strenuous campaign the Saskatchewan government (liberal) was returned by a small majority on the 14th. The exact numbers of each party elected is not yet available. The number of constituencies was increased since the last election in 1905, from 24 to 40, and it is thought the government will have at least 23 of the seats. Two cabinet ministers, Hon. W. R. Motherwell (agriculture) and Hon. J. A. Calder (education) were defeated in North Qu'Appelle and Milestone, respectively.

From all appearances there will be nearly 25,000 men from the east to work in the western harvest fields.

MARKETS

The movement of the markets during the past week furnished a striking illustration of the fact that prices do not always fall just before the new crop arrives. And, incidentally, the man who was on the look out for an instance of how speculative dealing helps to raise the price of actual wheat had an opportunity to make a few notes. By all the rules of the game prices should have gone down, but instead there was a continual rise. New wheat has begun to find its way to market in Chicago and Minneapolis, and a little in Winnipeg, and cables from Europe were not very strong but apparently the bull element had such control of the situation that prices were maintained. Reports of damage in the Dakotas, the knowledge of actual damage from the hot winds in July, and the general shortage in world's supply, all combine to make prices high. Added to these there was quite a severe frost in Eastern Saskatchewan and Western Manitoba, extending north and south across the foot of what is known as the second continental plateau. Just how much damage this frost did cannot be learned, but it must be considerable, since the area is quite large and the temperature low enough to make ice in places.

Cutting is now general over all the west, and the crop promises to be a fair average. The winter wheat crop in Alberta is practically all cut, and threshing is in progress. It is perhaps the best crop the province has yet had, prices are good, around 80c at local points, and as a consequence seeding for next year is on a larger scale than ever. What little barley that has come forward at Winnipeg is of better quality than last year but very little of our barley is free from wild oats. The malters are out with their annual warning to threshers not to knock the germ end off the grain when threshing, as without the germ to start germination barley is useless for malting. It is also injured for seed and in this will be found an explanation for some of the patchy stands one sometimes sees.

An attempt seems to be developing to raise the rates on grain going across the lakes. July was one of the poorest months for the shipping companies that has yet been known, and the hope of redeeming the loss of business lies in the western grain. Both railway companies insist that there will be plenty of cars and power to move the crop and the G. T. P. is also prepared to carry out a lot of grain.

Prices as we go to press are as follows:

1 hard.....	109
1 northern.....	108
2 northern.....	105
3 northern.....	103
No. 4.....	97
No. 5.....	87
No. 6.....	77½
Feed 1.....	70
Feed 2.....	60
No. 2 white oats.....	44
No. 3 white.....	40
Rejected.....	40
No. 3 barley.....	48
No. 4 barley.....	46
Feed.....	42½
Flax, N. W.....	124

OPTION QUOTATIONS.

	Sept.	Oct.	Dec.
Wheat.....	97½	95½	93½
Oats, No. 2 white, October.....		39½	

MINNEAPOLIS CASH PRICES.

1 hard 125 to 126, 1 northern 122, 2 northern 119, No. 3 112, 1 durum 93½, 2 durum 91½, 3 white oats 45½, 3 oats 42, barley 55, rye 71½, flax 133½.

PRODUCE AND MILL FEED.

Net per ton—	
Bran.....	\$19.00
Shorts.....	21.00
Chopped Feeds—	
Barley and oats.....	26.00
Barley.....	25.00
Oats.....	28.00
Oatmeal and millfeed.....	19.00
Wheat chop.....	22.00
Hay per ton (cars on track, Winnipeg), prairie hay.....	6.00@ \$ 7.00
Timothy.....	12.00@ 14.00
Loads.....	9.00@ 10.00
Baled straw.....	5.00@ 6.00

BUTTER, CHEESE AND EGGS.

Fancy fresh-made creamery bricks.....	23	@	24
Boxes, 14 to 28 lbs.....	22	@	23
DAIRY BUTTER—			
Extra fancy prints.....	21½	@	22
Dairy, in tubs.....	20½	@	22½
CHEESE—			
Manitoba cheese at Winnipeg.....	13		
Eastern cheese.....	12	@	13½
EGGS—			
Manitoba, fresh-gathered f. o. b. Winnipeg.....	21		

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes, car lots, per bu.....	\$0.85
Potatoes, small lots, per bu.....	.75
Beets, per bu.....	.90
Celery, per doz.....	.40
Onions, per cwt.....	3.00

LIVE STOCK.

Range stock is moving forward rapidly and the cattle are uniformly good. Last year about this time exporters were quoted around \$4.25 off cars, and this year there is not much change in quotations, 4c being the nominal figures at point of shipment although \$4.75 is said to be paid frequently at the yards. Hogs sell for 64 quite readily if the quality is good. The figures quoted are:

Export steers, 1200 and over f. o. b. point of shipment.....	4
Fat cows and heifers.....	2½ to 3½
Half fat butchers stock.....	2½ to 3
Veal calves.....	4 to 4½

HOGS.

Hogs, 150 lbs. to 250 lbs.....	5½
Heavy hogs.....	4½

SHEEP.

Sheep.....	5
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