

A REAL LADY BOUNTIFUL. "Beloved Lady Olive" with her family of fourteen, Stony Plain Demonstration Farm.

yields, whereas the person who tills the latter must pay the vendor of fertilizers half as much for materials to fertilize an acre as would buy the same in Alberta in order to grow a single remunerative crop.

Climate and Agriculture

The value of climate in relation to agriculture is as important as the chemical nature of the soil. No person in Alberta should be anxious to apologize for the climate of the province. Good as the soil is it never would have won the supremacy in grain production were it not for the purity of the air, temperature and equilibrium in precipitation. The value of pure air to successful agriculture is almost as important as it is for the health of the population. It prevents the rapid decay and transformation of inert or stored fertility, thus virtually precluding the waste of nature's capital.

The cold temperature of the summer nights is the cause of the large relative yields and unexpected quality of the grain. In the judgment of the best agriculturists the yield would be lessened proportionately to an increase in the temperature of the summer nights.

The relatively light precipitation is a further boon to the Alberta farmer. The rainfall throughout the province varies from fifteen to twenty inches which with forty inches in the British Isles or thirty inches in Ontario seems insufficient, but it is enough to grow good farm crops when intelligently tilled, and not too much to leach the

soil. If the quantity of the rain were distributed equally throughout every month in the year the comparatively light fall would be insufficient. But rain comes in Alberta just when it is needed in

be broken after seeding and prepared for another year; or, if thought best, sown to winter wheat. In the extreme south where it is almost all open prairie the sod is tougher and is best broken shallow, say, two and a half to three inches deep, well compressed with a land roller or log drag and then backset in August. This makes a fine preparation for winter wheat, or, if preferred, spring wheat the following year, and means a crop ranging from thirty to fifty bushels per acre.

Cereal Production

Alberta is the last great wheat belt of the American continent. The states of the Union that formerly produced wheat are now producing corn almost exclusively. Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, and other States of the Middle West, will always remain the corn belt of the continent while the Provinces of the Canadian Northwest

period of vegetation the summer heats of New Jersey and Ohio.

The wheat areas of the world are becoming exhausted or utilized for other crops. Consumption of wheat is increasing at a greater rate than production and an era of high prices is in sight. This scarcity is Canada's opportunity, and she is quickly taking a leading place in supplying bread to the ever-increasing millions of America and Europe, and while marvelous strides have been made in the facilities for transportation of agricultural products, yet the real solution of the problem is the bringing the population to the food rather than the food to the population. The vision that meets us here is one of ample land awaiting man and of possibilities of agricultural production which can be realized only by augmented immigration. Before and above all of what transport has done, and may yet do to carry agricul-

ture across the sea, the more reasonable prospect is the settlement of these wide areas by a population resting on the soil which this great province offers.

Lure of Wheat

The increase in wheat production in Alberta in the last few years is but an index of the great development that is bound to follow in the near future. The growth of the crop industry within the past 12 years is amazing, and is an impressive pointer to

what may be expected with the ordinary increase of settlement. In 1904 the total crop yield according to the records of the Provincial Department of Agriculture was 8,163,366 bushels. In



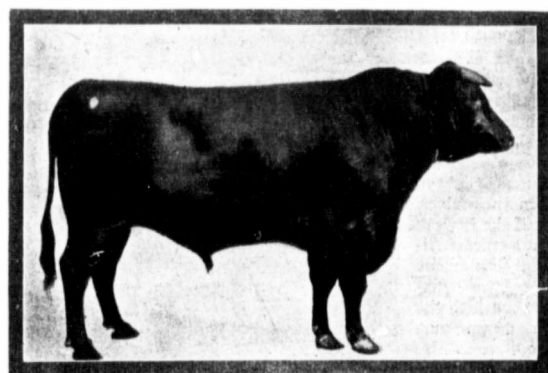
THERE IS "NO END" TO IT. A Bumper Crop of Alberta Wheat with a rich harvest of high-priced Flax seen to the left of it.

the months of May, June, July and August, the growing season.

Cost of Breaking Land

The initial cost of preparing land for crops is an item worthy of consideration by every intending settler. The open prairie land can be quickly broken and prepared for seeding at a minimum of expense, because there are practically no stones or anything else to delay the work of plowing. Steam plowing outfits work to perfection in this soil. The cost of breaking varies according to conditions at from \$3 to \$5 per acre. In the park country the cost of breaking and clearing the land of trees and brush is somewhat higher than on the open prairie, but it has this distinct advantage over the prairie land that it can be broken in the spring and an excellent crop of oats, wheat or barley obtained the same season. Additional land can

will as surely remain the great wheat producers. The whole Province lies south of the wheat line which bends from the Mississippi northward to the valley of the Peace, reproducing during the



A SIRE TO BE PROUD OF. "Butterfly King," the greatest sire of Dairy Shorthorns in Canada. Sedgwick Demonstration Farm.