

OTHER CROP PROPHETS.

Predict Crop of Two Hundred Million Bushels—
World's Crop Reports.

Mr. F. E. Schmidt, of the Sovereign Grain Company, Winnipeg, who is making an inspection of the crop by automobile, wires:

"As far as I could see, everything looks excellent. The country from Calgary to Carlstadt, which has had very small crops in past, appears to have big acreage, and the plant looks fine, being up about six inches, and very thick. Party from Outlook in office here says wheat in his section not as far advanced as last year this time, but in much better condition than heretofore to stand drought in July should it come. Judging from what I have seen so far, it seems to me that nothing short of a calamity can prevent a bumper crop. In my opinion the acreage has not been sufficiently estimated, and it looks like an easy 200,000,000 crop."

Estimate is Conservative.

Mr. Charles M. Hays, President of the Grand Trunk Railway, has returned from the west, where he has been inspecting the route of the Grand Trunk Pacific and crops adjacent in general.

He said that the prospects of this year's crop were distinctly favorable, and everything presented an exceptionally good appearance. With regard to the estimate of 200,000,000 bushels he considered that strictly conservative, and believed it would be exceeded, if anything.

Prof. Thomas Shaw, of North Dakota, the well-known grain expert, who has taken a trip through the Canadian West, stated that he thought Mr. William Whyte's estimate of 200,000,000 bushels very conservative.

Medium Wheat in Russia.

Broomhall describes the condition of winter and spring wheat in Russia as medium. Shipments continue to be large. Crops are progressing well in Roumania, and the Minister of Agriculture estimates wheat crop will be 20 per cent. larger than last year. Throughout the Balkan Peninsula crop indications are favorable. Some fears are entertained in Hungary of rust, due to recent storms, but no complaints have yet been received. Little change in crop aspects in France. Rather droughty conditions prevail in Germany. Hamburg advices report crops in northern part of the Empire as in fine condition, those in central part average, while the southern portion shows below average. Large imports of wheat are expected. Indian official report gives wheat crop of 372,000,000 bushels, compared with 360,800,000 last year, and of linseed 4,464,000 tons, as against 3,426,000 tons in 1910. Wheat shipments are now large. Prospects for new crop are good in both Argentina and Australia. Wheat is heading out well in United Kingdom.

World's Production Last Year.

That Canada will some day become "the granary of the Empire" is a possibility, but that day appears remote, in the light of the world production of wheat in 1910, when the total was 3,574,573,000 bushels, to which Canada contributed a trifling 149,990,000 bushels. Seven countries exceeded the wheat output of Canada last year, while an eighth—Germany—almost equalled it. France alone produced more than 100,000,000 bushels in excess of Canada's yield. The Russian Empire leads the world, with a yield greater than three-fourths of a billion bushels, and the United States is a comparatively close second. British India comes next with about one-half that of the United States. Argentina, Chili, Australia and New Zealand are a most important factor.

The following figures are reported by the International Agricultural Institute:

Country	1909. Bushels.	1910. Bushels.
Germany	138,000,000	141,835,000
Austria	58,468,000	57,589,000
Bulgaria	32,072,000	49,126,000
Denmark	3,771,000	4,550,000
Spain	144,105,000	137,449,000
Belgium	14,603,000	12,449,000
France	359,178,000	254,363,000
Great Britain and Ireland	63,197,000	58,235,000
Hungary	125,907,000	198,482,000
Italy	189,961,000	153,339,000
Luxemburg	617,000	624,000
Norway	312,000	314,000
Netherlands	4,113,000	4,324,000
Roumania	58,873,000	110,828,000
Russian Empire	790,245,000	776,619,000
Sweden	6,910,000	7,522,000
Switzerland	3,568,000	2,756,000
Canada	166,744,000	149,990,000
United States	737,189,000	695,443,000
British India	283,495,000	357,109,000
Japan	22,296,000	23,728,000

Algeria	34,769,000	39,375,000
Tunis	6,430,000	4,042,000
Argentina, Chili, Australia and New Zealand	247,582,000	249,632,000
Total for countries not reported by institute	88,656,000	84,800,000

World's total 3,581,007,000 3,574,573,000

The Ottoman Empire produced 164,778,000 bushels in 1910, but no figures for 1909 are available. This would make the actual world's total last year 3,739,351,000 bushels. It is not difficult in view of so tremendous a world supply, to appreciate the fact that the price of wheat is fixed at Liverpool, the point of the world's greatest demand.

Some Recent Statistics.

The May number of the Canadian Bulletin reviewing the publications of the International Agricultural Institute, contains the latest statistics concerning the world's cereal crops, and several interesting articles on Agricultural Co-operation.

Tables are given showing the condition of winter cereal crops on April 1st, 1911, comparison being made when possible with the conditions on April 1st, 1910. Generally the percentage of condition is slightly higher than last year. The tables giving production of wheat in the different countries for 1910 have been revised to date, showing a world's total for 1910 of 3,574,573,000 bushels compared with 3,581,007,000 bushels in 1909.

The most important selection from the Bulletin of Economic and Social Intelligence is a comprehensive article on Agricultural Organization and Co-operation in France. There were in France in 1910, 5,146 agricultural syndicates having a total of 777,076 members, of whom 14,500 were women. These syndicates unite the whole compact mass of field workers, binding in one knot, the masters, the laborers, and the small proprietors, thus differing from commercial and industrial syndicates, in which masters and workmen are associated in distinct and rival unions. In the syndicate, the farmer does not seek for an organ for the assertion of his rights, but for the means of obtaining at small cost all the merchandise and produce required for his farm work. By uniting the crops and produce of their members for collective sale, the syndicates obtain the advantage of considerable reductions in the expense of carriage. They have organized competitions and shows, founded libraries, established experimental fields and schools of farming, and put the most backward country districts into the way of progress. They have also undertaken the important work of organizing in country districts, co-operative credit societies, co-operative societies for sale and production, mutual insurance institutions and institutions for thrift.

An idea of the great progress made by agricultural organization in France will be gathered from the fact that the number of local agricultural credit banks organized by these syndicates increased in 10 years from 87 to 3,750, while in the same period, the number of members increased from 2,000 to 142,000.

The number of co-operative societies for production and sale is also increasing wonderfully. The co-operative dairies alone number 685, comprising 70,000 farming families, owning about 191,000 dairy cows.

PREFER TO TRADE WITH MOTHERLAND

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, speaking at the Constitutional Club, London, said that although himself a party man, he belonged to no party whatever when in Great Britain. They did not forget in his country that when they came to Britain they became part of the greater whole of British institutions, which, while not perfect, were certainly the wisest ever devised by men for the government of men. It was fourteen years since Canada introduced the system of a preferential tariff to Britain. She did it without any conditions, believing in her heart of hearts that the policy was sound, commercially and politically, and in the best interests of the Empire. They had had no reason to repent of their action. It had stood the test for fourteen years and the more they had of it the better they liked it. They had hoisted the policy of a British preference to the top of the mast. There might be some there who would say that by the reciprocal agreement with the United States they had given a fatal blow to the British preference. For such a doubt there was in his judgment no reason. The agreement made with the United States was no solemn treaty, but an agreement to which an end could be put. There was no occasion for any alarm about the matter. When he was told that they had chained their liberty and paralyzed their movements, he would say, "Look at the correspondence on the matter." They would see that the policy was one which suited the convenience of Canada, one to which an end could be put at any time. They were told they were leading up to the annexation of Canada and he had the right to say that he did not believe such an accusation as that. If he believed it, he would not have advocated the policy. Their effort would be to trade with the Mother Country in preference to any other. But they wanted also to trade with other countries.