

CROP STATISTICS

The final estimate of crop returns for the year 1912 has just been issued by the Census and Statistical Office at Ottawa. In the main, the past year was a satisfactory one, although wheat shows a decline of almost 16,500,000 bushels over the figures for the previous year. Oats, barley, buckwheat, flaxseed, potatoes and turnips all show increases. The output of corn and of hay and clover show a decrease. The comparative figures for the two years dealing with the chief crops, follow:—

	1912.	1911.
Wheat, bush.	199,236,000	215,851,000
Oats, bush.	361,733,000	348,187,000
Barley, bush.	44,014,000	40,644,000
Rye, bush.	2,594,000	2,694,000
Buckwheat, bush.	10,193,000	8,155,000
Corn, bush.	16,569,000	18,722,000
Flaxseed, bush.	21,681,000	12,921,000
Potatoes, bush.	81,343,000	66,023,000
Turnips, etc., bush.	87,505,000	84,933,000
Hay and clover, tons	11,189,000	12,694,000

A CANADIAN RAILWAY'S PUBLIC SPIRIT

At a time when "corporation baiting" is popular with many journals in the United States, it is interesting to note the comments of some of the saner publications in regard to the attitude the Canadian people and the Government take towards the great Canadian corporations. A recent editorial in the New York "Outlook" dealing with "A Canadian Railway's Public Spirit," has the following to say:—

In these days of fastidiousness about the behaviour of public service corporations it is a pleasure to be able to praise the Canadian Pacific Railway for adopting a policy that for progressive public spirit as well as sheer business wisdom is noteworthy in railway history. It has shut down tight on selling any of its lands to speculators. When the road was under construction thirty years ago the company got a grant of twenty-five million acres of public land in the rich prairie Provinces of western Canada. Since then it has remained the only private landowner of any national consequence in Canada, except the Hudson Bay Company, which has held about seven million acres. The railway company has always been remarkably liberal with its land, selling it freely at a reasonable price, and consistently helping the bona fide settler in every possible way. It has kept an enormous amount of capital tied up in projects for development and colonization, not merely to attract the settler to the land, but to furnish him solid backing and assistance when he got there. But it found before long that the enterprising speculator was being attracted also, and that some of its best holdings were being picked up by non-resident individuals and syndicates and held without development or any intention of development, for the inevitable rise in values. The company has now put a stop to this. It strictly limits the amount of land it will sell to any one person. Each contract now contains an ironclad development clause, and also

binds the purchaser to take up personal residence within six months. All mineral rights are reserved to the company, so that there is no confusion of straight agricultural opportunity with the opportunity to get rich quickly without working, as, for instance, in the palmy days of the oil lease in western Pennsylvania. The company disposes of the right to work minerals and timber only by separate contract, and on terms which essentially accord with the general policy of the Dominion Government, towards natural resources.

KRUPP'S AS WAR MAKERS

The attack upon Krupps by Dr. Liebknecht, the Socialist member for Essen in the German Reichstag, sounds more serious than it is. To say the least, it was ingenuous to found the charges in large degree upon incidents occurring, and a letter written, in 1907! The party to which the accuser belongs is so well known to be opposed to the forward military policy of Germany that his attacks must suffer discounting on that account. It is an obvious thing to charge the great firm so greatly interested in the manufacture of munitions of war, with provoking militant movements. And the charge would be readily accepted by any because when once suggested it apparently accounts for several things.

For these specious reasons we should be inclined to doubt them. They, more so easily and freely than we should suspect, that "the ways had been well greased" before they were launched at all.

The following are important parts, given in verbatim, of Dr. Liebknecht's speech:—

"Armament contractors systematically supply goods to foreign countries, indifferent as to whether they will later be used for the purpose of killing Germans. The Dillingen works are actually owned in the main by French capital, and at their general meeting the language of our old enemies, the French, is employed."

"A German armament firm did not scruple to promote the publication of an article in a French newspaper to the effect that French armaments were projected, so as to build up German opinion in favour of increases in the army, and to benefit its own pockets. That is the way in which it is done. The biggest German armaments factory adopts every kind of manipulation. The directors of the Krupp steel works in Essen maintained in Berlin until only a few weeks ago an agent named Frank, a former artilleryman, whose business it was to make up to and bribe the officials of the War Office and Admiralty, in order to obtain secret documents, whose contents were of interest to the firm. Information as to the results of negotiations about prices demanded by other firms, or accorded to them, is particularly sought after. The man presumably has money at his disposal, so as to induce official's to betray military secrets. In the secret cupboard of a Herr von Dewitz in Essen, a high official of the firm of Krupp, these secret reports lie or lay carefully preserved. I have informed the War Minister of the particulars given to me. My atten-