



WHAT CANADA'S PRAIRIE FARMS CAN DO UNDER PROPER CONDITIONS.

This great crop of onions on the Brooks' Demonstration Farm in Southern Alberta, is the product of the irrigation system of the Canadian Pacific Railway, plus shelter belts of trees. The trees provide essential protection against blighting winds.

grass, weeds, etc. In most cases the tendency is to give insufficient preparation to the soil before planting, and this is nearly always fatal, and by far the greater percentage of failures can invariably be traced to this cause. When a settler once decides to plant trees he generally wants to see results in the shortest possible time, and for that reason, unless he should happen to have a piece of land which has been under cultivation for some time, is seldom willing to postpone the actual planting in order to put the ground in better condition, as he imagines that by so doing he is losing valuable time, whereas he is as a matter of fact inviting failure and practically throwing away valuable time and labor. Our experience in connection with the tree planting work of the Dominion Forestry Department, covering a period of the last sixteen

years, in which we have been instrumental in establishing thousands of plantations in the three prairie Provinces, has proved conclusively that thorough summer fallowing, taking one year with another, is the only preparation that can be absolutely relied upon. If following such preparation, suitable varieties are selected and properly planted, success is bound to follow providing reasonable protection from stock, fire, etc., and cultivation are subsequently given to the young plantations. Cultivation after planting is as necessary as before, as on account of our soils being very rich, weeds and grass will quickly work in among the trees if not carefully looked after. Grass is the worst enemy of established tree belts, and nearly always works in from the edges unless proper measures are taken to prevent it. Once grass gets