

"The wealth, as indicated above, is concretely illustrated by the official list of automobile licenses issued in Western Canada in 1917. The average for the Dominion of Canada as a whole is one auto to every fifty-seven people. The average for Western Canada (Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta), is one auto to every twenty people."

Value of Cereals and Other Crops

The figures given also emphasize the fact that in 1917 the cereal crops alone averaged in value per each farm \$3,725, and that the average capital worth (land, buildings, machinery, live stock), was, as stated above, over \$11,000, and that the average capital worth of the *Grain Growers' Guide* subscribers was \$25,878. Taking their own figures of the average value of farm holdings and the average returns for the past three years, it shows that the cereals alone, without counting any other crops, have produced thirty-two per cent. per year upon the capital. There are many other extremely interesting and very satisfactory figures and statements given, all showing the great progress the agriculturists of the West are making. Now, in addition to the cereal crops mentioned in the *Grain Growers' Guide* circulars, we have figures issued in a bulletin by *The Nor'-West Farmer*, taken, it is stated, from 1917 final crop and live stock reports of the Provincial Departments of Agriculture in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. A study of these reports gives the total value of farm products, other than cereals, at a little larger figure than the total value of all cereals. It is fair to assume, therefore, that on the average all the expenses of farming operations would be more than met by the production of other than cereal crops, whether such products were sold or retained to add to the farmer's capital. This, then, would leave at least the profit on cereals as net returns, and I do not hesitate to say, after careful calculation, that it would be quite double the average net profits of manufacturing during the same period of three years. The first year (1915) was disastrous, generally speaking, in manufacturing, and while the last two years have been unusually profitable in many lines, yet in others war conditions have brought paralysis. No class in Canada, however, rejoices more in the prosperity of the farmers than the manufacturers. We realize that unless producers in all classes in the country, whether engaged in farming, manufacturing, mining, fishing, lumbering, or other forms of industry, are prosperous, it is utterly impossible for the country as a whole to progress as it should. It would appear, however, from the figures given by the agriculturists themselves, as quoted above, that just now is not an opportune time for them to ask other classes of the population to assume burdens of taxation which they would like to be relieved of.