

In addition, considerable quantities of peas and rye were produced, the yields being satisfactory, also the usual large crops of potatoes and other roots.

So bountiful are the harvests in the Canadian West that it is now necessary to bring in from Eastern Canada and elsewhere 10,000 to 20,000 farm laborers to work in the wheat fields. These earn good wages and many remain and become actual settlers themselves.

*It must not be understood from the above that the Canadian North-west is a wheat country and nothing else. That is far from the case, for most that is produced in a temperate climate grows here abundantly. It is the natural home of the cereal and the garden root; for dairying it has no superior, and it is the stockman's paradise.*

It has been well said that, "Next in value to the soil is the heritage of climate." No citizen of North-western Canada should be anxious to apologize for the climate of his country. Good as the soil is it would never have brought supremacy in grain production in this country had it not been for the climate. The blessing of the climate is threefold. It consists in the purity of the air, in the temperature of the same, and in the happy equilibrium in the precipitation. Every one knows the value of the pure air in this country, viewed from the standpoint of health. But does every one know as to the inestimable character of the blessing which pure air proves to the agriculture of the country? It prevents the rapid decay and transformation of the vegetable matter in the soil, and also the too rapid transformation of inert fertility, thus virtually preventing waste in the hand of nature. In this fact is found our explanation of the extraordinary fertility of the soil. The cool temperature of the summer nights is responsible for the large relative yields of the grain. Raise the temperature of the summer days and nights, and the yield of grain will be proportionately reduced. The relatively cool temperature is one of the agricultural glories of this land. The relatively light precipitation is also a great boon to the North-western farmer. It grows his crops and does not destroy them when grown. Nearly every portion of these three Provinces has a rainfall of 15 or 20 inches, enough to grow good crops of grain on