

WHAT IS THE CROP SHORTAGE?

President McEwing's Statement Questioned—
Northwest Crop Reports.

(Toronto Globe.)

In the accompanying article on the business outlook it will be observed that President McEwing, of the Farmers' Association, bases his pessimistic forecast on the hypothesis that the crops are a third less in volume than they were last year, and that they are, therefore, worth a third less in money to the producer. The consumer of farm products knows that this is not the case, and that in very many cases the farmer will be as well off with the smaller crop as with the larger. Here are the highest prices quoted for some of the chief products of the farm on the local market yesterday and a year ago on the corresponding day:

	Price yesterday.	Price a year ago.	Price in crease, p.c.
Ontario white wheat, No. 2 (outside)	\$0.87	\$0.70 1/2	24
Manitoba No. 1 Northern (lake ports)	1.02 1/2	79	29
Oats, No. 2 (outside)	43	31	39
Corn, No. 3 yellow (Toronto)	72	57 1/2	24
Barley, No. 2 (outside)	53 1/2	48 1/2	10
Peas, No. 2 (outside)	75 1/2	75	0
Hay (in bulk)	18.00	15.00	20
Straw	14.00	13.00	7 1/2
Hogs (dressed)	9.25	9.50	-2 1/2
Hogs (live)	6.25	6.40	-2 1/2
Butter	27	25	8
Eggs	25	22	13
Export cattle (Toronto market)	5.10	4.90	4

*Decrease.

It will be observed that the increase in the price of oats, the crop that shows poorest results, is over 30 per cent. This will go to make up for the shortage in the crop of those who sell the oats. In the case of the farmers—the vast majority—who use oats for feed the increase in the selling price of five stock that is almost inevitable will go far to compensate. The late grass and root crop may yet do much to save the feed situation as a result of recent heavy rains. The farmer of Ontario is many milestones this side of ruin.

McEwing's Statement.

Toronto, Sept. 6.—President McEwing, of the Farmers' Association, made a statement at Tuesday's meeting of the association that has set every financial authority and mercantile expert in the country afloat for information. His prediction that the comparative crop shortage of the year would give the farmers of the Province \$80,000,000 less to spend than in 1906 is regarded with alarm by some and derision by many. Here is the remarkable statement that has caused searching of barns, pastures, grain bins, and pocketbooks in rural Ontario for the past three days:

"I regret very much that, owing to the extraordinary season which we have experienced, the results of the year's operations are likely to prove disappointing to the farmers of Ontario. From the best information available there is no doubt that the hay, grain, and root crops in Ontario for 1907 will be at least one-third less than the average crop for the last eight or ten years. This will mean less beef, bacon, mutton, cheese and butter. It is also a matter of grave concern in many districts how the necessary food is to be provided for the farm stock during the coming fall and winter months. There is no doubt that large numbers will have to be sacrificed, to a large extent, to meet the requirements of the situation."

"It has been estimated by good authorities that the value of the products of Ontario farms for the year 1906 reached the enormous total of \$250,000,000. If this estimate is a correct one, the partial failure of the crops of 1907 will mean a difference of over \$87,000,000 to the Ontario farmers; they will have that much less to compensate them for their toil, and they will have that much less to spend for the necessities and comforts of life for themselves and their families."

The Sun's Estimate.

The Farmers' Sun, which has certainly not been unduly optimistic, says in its last issue:

"So far as Ontario is concerned, the facts given in the report of the Department of Agriculture clearly show that the value of the grain crops in this Province is at least \$12,000,000 below the average of the previous five years. By the time the returns from all crops are figured out, and account is taken of the decline in dairying, it will probably be found that the shortage in this season's operations as compared with the previous five, is between fifteen and twenty millions. It is absolutely certain that proportionate losses have been sustained in the west; if we have a really severe frost within two weeks the western losses may be still greater. There is no occasion for panic, but it is better to face the situation boldly than it would be to close our eyes to obvious facts."

Outrageous, Says Mr. Watts.

The position he holds as Secretary of the Dominion Farmers' Association enables Mr. C. B. Watts to speak with some authority in regard to the matter of the prices of cereals and his opinion with regard to possible returns from this year's crop may be regarded as having some weight. When interviewed yesterday and asked his opinion as to President McEwing's statement, Mr. Watts stated at once, using no equivocal language: "It is an outrageous statement, and should be contradicted. President McEwing, however, has made a definite statement. He has given figures, and I am not prepared to say anything which would figure before me, but I am certain that he is wrong."

After looking up statistics and making comparisons, Mr. Watts said: "I was astonished to see that Mr. McEwing's estimate that there would be a reduction this year of \$80,000,000 in the value of the farm products of Ontario, I cannot imagine how he arrived at those figures. The shortage has been complained of principally in the grain crop and dairy produce. I feel sure that he has greatly overestimated the position so far as the grain is concerned, and that the crop in Ontario are not nearly as bad as they were thought to be a few weeks ago."

"The value of the grain crop of Ontario, including hay, last year was roughly estimated at \$110,000,000. Wheat to-day is bringing twenty per cent. more than it was a year ago, and yet the average yield per acre is only two bushels less, according to the Government crop report. Oats are also twenty per cent. higher in price, and the average yield is estimated at nine bushels per acre, or thirty per cent. less. Barley is ten per cent. higher in price, and the average yield per acre is only one bushel less, or twenty per cent. less. Peas are fetching the same price as last year, and the yield per acre is three bushels more. While the yield of beans is estimated at double what it was last year, it is too early to estimate the value. Beans will be considerably higher than last year in price, while the crop will average about a bushel an acre less. There is a serious shortage of hay in certain sections of the country, but in other portions there is a good yield. The present indications are that the price for hay will be double what it was a year ago, and the yield is practically one and one-half

The Daily Fashion Hint.



Neat Dresses for Children.

The bright plaid used for the larger girl's dress is trimmed with revers, pipings, and cuff bands of a plain goods matching its most prominent color. The closing is in back, the gilt buttons and loops on the front are for trimming. The little girl's dress has a little jacket which buttons to the T-shaped extension of the skirt. The material is blue and the trimming is red soutache and red pearl buttons.

Alberta. It is a most favorable one.

It is as follows:
Wheat, 5,013,544 acres at 16.4 bushels per acre, \$82,222,000 bushels.
Oats, 2,373,030 acres at 33.0 bushels per acre, \$7,855,000 bushels.
Barley, 664,533 acres at 28.1 bushels per acre, \$18,654,000 bushels.
Flax, 105,050 acres at 12.5 bushels per acre, \$1,313,125 bushels.
Wheat of old crop in farmers' hands to market, 800,000 bushels.
Oats of old crop in farmers' hands to market, 492,000 bushels.

The statement says: "The above statement may be increased or decreased according to the weather conditions prevailing from now on for harvesting, as a large proportion of the heaviest yielding crop is not yet ready to cut, and will not be for eight or ten days."

"The damage from various causes is far less than at first estimated, and is but a small percentage."

NEW TREATY.

FRANCE AND CANADA BOTH MAKE CONCESSIONS.

France Lowers Duty on Canadian Cattle, Sheep and Wood Pulp—Marselles Anxious for Direct Line of Steamers to Canada.

London, Sept. 5.—The frequently well-informed Paris correspondent of the Pall Mall Gazette states that the concessions are nicely balanced in the new Franco-Canadian treaty. Canada grants concessions on the intermediate tariff, but they are framed to include articles not competing to any extent with British manufactures. France has consented to rank pulp wood as raw produce. It is believed that considerable concessions have been made in the rate where Canadian cattle and sheep may enter French markets.

Marselles is anxious to have a line of steamers direct to Canada, and a subvention awaits the firm enterprising enough to establish it. Messrs. Fielding and Brodeur and the French Consul at Montreal, who has been an active agent in the negotiations, hope to sail for Canada on Tuesday.

The Times, referring to the Franco-Canadian negotiations, states that France has successfully sought to obtain from Canada not only the benefit of the minimum tariff, but in the case of certain articles an important reduction in duties, notably on wine. France has extended the application of her minimum tariff to a number of exclusively Canadian products. The formal admission of the British Government will be required before the convention can be published.

NINETY MILLIONS REVENUE.

Bank of Commerce Estimate of Northwest Crop Output.

	Yield per Acre.	Bushels
Wheat	14	38,653,000
Manitoba	25	6,375,000
Alberta	18	35,383,000
Saskatchewan	30	80,811,000
Oats	30	36,407,000
Manitoba	45	15,945,000
Alberta	32	24,453,000
Saskatchewan	30	76,806,000
Barley	25	16,280,000
Manitoba	35	2,075,000
Alberta	30	1,829,000
Saskatchewan	30	20,743,000
Estimated Values.		
Wheat		\$80,614,000
Oats		23,042,000
Barley		7,280,000
Total		\$90,910,000

Northwest Crop Estimate.

Winnipeg, Sept. 5.—The Northwest Grain Dealers' Association handed out to-day, through Frank O. Fowler, secretary, their crop estimate for the year for Manitoba, Saskatchewan and

THE ORPHANS LOVE HER.

DESCENDANT OF SCOTTISH KINGS OSTRACIZED HERSELF.

Her Asylum Burned Up—Nova Scotia Spite Drove Her to Coastville With Little Remnant of Her Waifs.

Coastville, P.E.I., Sept. 6.—There was much more in and around the life of Miss Emma Matland Stirling, the rich and aged spinster who died last night at her home here, than appeared on the surface, or than the casual acquaintance, who had known her only since she came here from Nova Scotia, 11 years ago, with 11 orphan children, would dream. She was a descendant of Scottish kings and had lived a wonderful life.

Miss Stirling was virtually a martyr to her lifelong resolution to uplift fallen humanity. She was a native of Edinburgh, Scotland, and that her father was a first cousin of Sir James Hume, a famous Scottish statesman, she took up mission work in her native land, going among the children of the slums of large cities. Her aristocratic family bitterly opposed this action on her part, but she would not be dissuaded, and the result was that she finally left home to follow up the work.

She was the pioneer in Scotland of the movement for the prevention of cruelty to children, and had, in 1877, founded that which, in 1889, developed into the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. In the course of her efforts she had saved so many destitute children that she could not support them in Scotland and was forced to find more room and cheaper food for the 300 growing boys and girls depending on her bounty.

The land of Excalibur, as pictured by Longfellow, appealed to her nature and, with her 300 waifs, she left England and crossed the Atlantic, settling near Aylesford, Kings county, Nova Scotia. Her new home she called "Hill-foot Farm" and there, she added the cause of temperance to her work, organizing a branch of the W. C. T. U. in Aylesford. Through her efforts in this line Kings county, in 1894, went overwhelmingly "dry."

The following year one of her wards, a girl, became involved in serious trouble. Arrests followed, but through Miss Stirling's aggressive work in the case she incurred bitter enmity in this section. Finally, one cold winter night, her home burned to the ground. She and her children barely escaped with their lives, and were compelled to work through the snow in their bare feet, previously blistered by the hot embers of the burning building. In this plight they traveled by rail to Halifax, clad only in their night clothes.

Feeling that the people of Nova Scotia were against her, Miss Stirling disposed of her property there and came to this place, where she bought what is known as the old Miller place, the relic of an old Chester county family. Here for several years she educated and reared orphan children and found them good homes and started them in useful careers. Of late years, however, she had been forced to give up this work, an account of failing health, and for several winters had lived at Bonny Brae, Thiontossa, Fla.

Drumpler, her home here, has on its walls the portraits of William Morris, of Revolutionary fame, and some of the Willings, an old and prominent Philadelphia family, with whom Miss Stirling claimed relationship.

Throughout her life Miss Stirling was very simply in her tastes and of a strong personality. She sought few companions, seeming to feel that the hand of the world was against her; yet beneath it all was a deep religious fervor and a kindly heart that prompted her to extend a helping hand to all these whose lot had been cast in the under world.

William M. Hayes, of West Chester, and Thomas Clark, of Philadelphia, were named her executors. A girl whom she brought from Nova Scotia says that Mother Stirling requested that

she be buried in her nightgown. Attorney Hayes was here yesterday, and made arrangements for the funeral, which will take place on Thursday morning.

SENT BY-LAW
UP TO COUNCIL.

COMMITTEE DECIDES ON HOSPITAL GROUNDS FOR THE HOME.

The Brantford & Hamilton Railway's Bond Discussed Again—Matter of Appointing a Plumbing Inspector is Shelved.

The Finance Committee decided last night to send the by-law for a vote on a return to the ward system up to the City Council, although it was explained that nothing could be done with it on the proposition to divide the city into about half the number of polling subdivisions, as at present, for the purpose of voting on the by-laws until it was seen what was going to be done about the electric pumps. A sub-committee is in the States now getting information on this question.

A resolution from the Parks Board, recommending that if the committee saw fit, a by-law to raise \$10,000 for the proposed permanent art gallery at Dundurn Park, be submitted, was discussed, but it was decided to allow it to lie over until the municipal elections in January.

After reading a communication received from the Board of Health, stating that it had been agreed to leave the question of a site for the Southern Home for Advanced Cases of Consumption to the aldermen, the committee recommended the Council that it go on the City Hospital grounds.

City Solicitor Waddell advised the committee that he could see no reason why it could not collect the \$10,000 bond deposited by the Brantford & Hamilton Railway to have the road completed by July 1st. One of the aldermen thought the bond should be taken over until from poles were put up on Hess street, which crossings laid, and the people on that street satisfied.

Mr. John G. Gauld, the company's solicitor, said the railway had tried to live up in every respect to the by-law, and had pushed the work along as fast as possible. Every suggestion made by the City Engineer and Board of Works had been acted upon. It was impossible to satisfy the residents at the corner of Herkimer and Hess streets, unless the rails were taken up, and he had been told that by one of those interested. Mr. Gauld said he was prepared to meet the committee at any time and discuss any suggestions that might be made.

It was agreed to leave the matter over till the next meeting, and in the meantime the City Engineer will make a report on the condition of Hess street. The question of appointing a plumbing inspector was up again. Ald. Peebles said that both the men and master plumbers had strongly recommended the appointment of an inspector. Ald. Peebles could not get a second for his motion to recommend the Council to appoint an inspector. The matter was shelved again until next meeting.

The recommendation of the Fire and Water Committee to lay a main on Ash street, between Wilson and Cannon streets, at a cost of \$620, was not acted upon, because there was not money for that purpose. It was shown at the Fire and Water Committee that this main was badly needed for fire protection, and that the underwriters had threatened to raise the rates of A. M. Fwing, baker, and others unless it was laid.

Socked.

We sell the best sock in the city for 25c; the best overall for 75c, and the best shoe for \$1.50.—M. Kennedy, 240 James north and 148 John south.

Buried by Avalanche.

Santiago, Chile, Sept. 5.—Fifty persons are said to have been buried alive by an avalanche of snow that has rolled down the mountainside and obliterated a Chilean Custom House at Juncal. This station is on the Argentine frontier, high up in the Andes.

\$5,000 to Spread the Gospel.

London, Sept. 5.—"G. C. T." forwards to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel £1,000 for missionary work in Western Canada, where the society requires £10,000.

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