

THE HARD WHEAT BELT

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THE CROP FOR 1901.

The crop year of 1901 for Manitoba closed on the last day of August. Within that month 1,894 cars were inspected at Winnipeg, of which 1,668 were wheat. The inspection for the year commencing Sept. 1st, 1901, and ending August 31st, 1902, are as follows. The two year's inspection are given for the sake of comparison:—

WHEAT.

| Crop | 1901. | 1900 | 1899. |
|----------------|--------|--------|--------|
| One hard | 8,282 | 1,192 | 23,288 |
| One northern | 18,795 | 2,208 | 5,026 |
| Two northern | 21,851 | 4,681 | 1,958 |
| Three northern | 991 | 110 | 524 |
| Number 4 | 190 | | |
| Feed | 79 | 1 | 44 |
| Rejected one | 267 | 137 | 682 |
| Rejected two | 107 | 66 | 425 |
| No grade | 2,972 | 6,390 | 688 |
| Rejected | 64 | 34 | 10 |
| Condemned | 140 | 67 | 80 |
| Total | 53,708 | 14,886 | 32,725 |

OATS.

| Crop | 1901. | 1900 | 1899. |
|-----------|-------|------|-------|
| One white | 37 | 7 | 62 |
| Two white | 1,817 | 70 | 376 |
| Two mixed | 483 | 13 | 208 |
| Feed | 583 | 102 | 70 |
| No. grade | 73 | 236 | 18 |
| Rejected | 73 | 20 | 20 |
| Condemned | 2 | | |
| Total | 3,338 | 448 | 763 |

BARLEY.

| Crop | 1901. | 1900. | 1899. |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|
| No. 3 extra | 17 | | 6 |
| No. 3 | 146 | 10 | 50 |
| Feed | 115 | 14 | 44 |
| No grade | 12 | 4 | |
| Rejected | 11 | | 2 |
| Total | 308 | 28 | 102 |

ELAX.

| Crop | 1901. | 1900. | 1899. |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|
| No. 1 | 9 | 1 | 37 |
| No. 2 | 91 | 2 | 22 |
| Rejected | 43 | 27 | 14 |
| No grade | 3 | 13 | |
| Total | 146 | 43 | 73 |

Total car . . . 57,500 15,405 33,663
Taking the average of the 53,708 cars inspected at 850 bushels, and adding 3,000,000 bushels for wheat ground [in the province but not inspected], we may set down for milling and export about 49,000,000 bushels. Add 4,500,000 more for seed, 500,000, for waste and 2,000,000 still lying back in the country, the total for the year would be 56,000,000 bushels.

The December (1901) crop bulletin for Manitoba puts its yield at 50,500,000 bushels and the threshers' returns from the Territories totalled nearly 12,000,000 bushels more. The Nor' West Farmer's estimate was 23.76 bushels per acre for Manitoba or something under 48,000,000. This with the Territorial figures totals under 60,000,000, or 2,500,000 less than the government figures but still 4,000,000 too high for the inspection records,

THE BOOM IN IMMIGRATION.

The rapid expansion in the agricultural settlement of the Northwest is a surprise even to those who have the firmest faith in its advantages. The best idea of the present situation is to be got from the homestead entries for the years ending June 30th. They were in 1896, 1,837; in 1897, 2,384; in 1898, 4,848; in 1899, 6,609; in 1,900, 7,426; in 1901, 8,167 and in 1902, 14,832. Taken by agencies the entries for the years 1901-02 were as follows: Alameda 1,979; Battleford, 169; Brandon, 652; Calgary 1,494; Dauphin, 391; Edmonton, 2,245; Kamloops, 88; Lethbridge, 892; Minnedosa, 438; New Westminster, 29; Prince Albert, 1,010; Regina, 2,438; Red Deer, 1,150; Winnipeg, 792; Yorkton, 1,066.

This gives one a pretty good idea where settlement is being made. Next June will show a very much larger increase.

In addition to this there has been several million acres of land purchased for colonization purposes, which have been largely resold to settlers who are not included in the above report.

trious man can make a good living here. Vegetables of all kinds do well here. I never saw a better quality of potatoes. One can buy all kinds of fruit here; it is shipped in, I believe, as cheap as people could raise it. The wood is scarce here, but coal is cheap, \$3.50 per ton. I am well pleased with the country so far. One can get 160 acres of good land for \$10, and agent's fees, which is \$2, and when this is paid you have a farm of your own. All of it can be plowed—no waste land—the finest prairie I ever saw, and those men I have already mentioned can testify to the same; all I am sorry for I did not come here sooner. We have a section of land all told, my sons and myself. I expect we will have a Canadian Missouri here of our own if all come for whom I have entered land at the Dominion Land Office.

Yours,
Thomas Hepburn,
Regina, Assa.

is land for sale at reasonable prices. We believe this to be a district that is well adapted to mixed farming, and think one would make no mistake by settling in this vicinity.

THE LONGER THEY STAY THE BETTER THEY LIKE IT

Writing from Lacombe, Alberta, John McKay, formerly of Iowa, U.S., says:—

Upon leaving Battle Creek you requested me if I liked the country to write and let you know, accordingly this will be evidence that we like the country. At first we did not like it, but the longer we stay the better we like it. Our intention is to stay here, we know we have got a good thing, we do not intend to return to Iowa to live, although we realize Iowa is the best State in the Union, we are satisfied we can do better here. I followed your advice and we have 81 head of cattle; we think we will pass through the winter before we get more, although we are not scared of the winter, other people can winter them in good shape without sheds and I know we can. In fact, the winter don't bother us any.

Regarding the other people that came with us, Segur, Morton and Jacobsen are here and they all like the country and are well satisfied, Frehsrichs went to Edmonton. At present he is working in a saw-mill and his family is living on the homestead. I understand he is well pleased with the country. Scran Bros. are around Beaver Lake. I don't know how they like it. I don't know where Robt. Lemen and Herman and Herman Arnold are located, but was informed they are at Millet.

We have purchased 800 acres of land and intend to get more soon, so you see we intend to stay.

Of course this country has its disadvantages like all others, but the advantages are so much better here it more than counterbalances the disadvantages and makes this a good place.

I am looking for some people from Battle Creek this fall to look over the country, but don't know just when. We had two men from Battle Creek in the spring to look at the country, but they had large property interests there and they run this country down when they returned. Of course, you can see their object. Crops look grand, prospects are for an immense crop. Fine place for cattle, can't be beat.

FINEST IN THE WORLD

MINNESOTA DELEGATES PLEASED.

In writing to the agent of the Canadian government, Mr. A. E. Houghton, says:—

On September 6th, Mr. Briggs and myself were sent to inspect the farming lands of Western Canada by the farmers of Kandiyohi county, Minnesota, and make a selection if we liked the country, people and climate.

We passed through Southern Manitoba, and into the Alameda district of Assiniboia, and after looking this country well over, we decided to locate near Carievale, Assa. We purchased lands in this district and since, we have returned to Minnesota, sold out our holdings here and returned immediately to Western Canada, where we intend making our permanent homes. Although the spring was very dry, we found very good crops which were hard to harvest, owing to the unusual wet autumn. The farmers seem to be all in a thriving condition and well pleased with the country.

It will suffice to say that I would advise all my friends who are desirous of farming, and are not satisfied with their present locations, to go to Western Canada, where they will certainly be satisfied, being, in my opinion, one of the finest farming countries in the world.



FARM HOUSE NEAR BRANDON

A CANADIAN MISSOURI.

AN INSPIRING LETTER FROM REGINA, ASSINIBOIA, WESTERN CANADA.

Mr. J. S. Crawford,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Sir:—

According to promise, I send you this letter to let you know how we are getting along in this country, which is Assiniboia, N. W. T. We rented a farm and put in a crop, and had a very good crop considering the dry weather, wheat averaged 35, oats 40 bushels per acre. We sold our wheat for 72 cents per bushel and our oats for 50 cents. This land was all summer-fallow and we had to break and backset enough to pay for the work already done. Our wheat and oats were extra good, all graded No. 1. We commenced sowing wheat on the 9th of April. We sowed our oats the 25th of May and cut the same the last week in August. I sold some of these oats to-day at the Glasgow House, Regina, and a two-bushel sack weighed a little over 100 pounds, that is the kind of oats we raise here. George Thompson, De Mott and Hunt, all from Missouri, were here and helped us harvest them and can vouch for the truth of this statement; their present address is Hopkins, Mo. There is no better wheat ground in America. I saw some men that were along with you in Regina from Oklahoma. They went out to Brown's farm, north of Regina 13 miles to see the wheat fields on that farm, and they told me it was the best wheat they ever saw. I am satisfied that any indus-

AND WILL FIND MANY MORE WHEN THE FACTS WITH REGARD TO THE COUNTRY ARE BETTER KNOWN.

Writing from Modale, Iowa, September 23, 1891, to the representative of the Canadian government, Messrs. A. E. Ockerson and W. H. Bown have this to say of Western Canada:

At Regina we stayed two days, driving out to the north and south; going north some twelve miles in Company with Mr. Bredt, through whose kindness and thorough knowledge of the country we got much valuable information which was verified by the very beautiful crops, a large percentage of which was in stock. We were rather egotistical, thinking we had seen heavy grain before, but as compared to the immense crops in the vicinity of Regina we had seen no equal. Southwest of Regina the crops were also very good, but not so much of the land in cultivation.

On the Prince Albert line we passed through a very good country, with a few exceptions. Saskatoon we drove west with Mr. Leslie, where we saw a very fine country with good crops and harvest well advanced. We were particularly impressed with this district, the small groves dotted over the prairie, giving it the appearance of an old settled country. We are told that east-off homesteads can be got, but a few miles away, and that there