

hands and its appearance will be entirely altered, it seems likely to become in the near future a spot well worth a visit, for a progressive American, Col. Reid, of Kentucky, has purchased it and proposes in the near future to have the bulk of it under crop within the next two years, employing the most modern implements for this purpose. The reports of crop failure or partial failure in Manitoba are blamed for causing the big millers of Vancouver to put up the price of flour 20 cents a barrel. Whilst there will be many who will regret the step, the farmers in general should remember that the price of wheat is away up and that they are getting their share of the enhanced values.

Olds, a few miles north of Calgary, is certainly taking a hand in the hog industry. Several farmers have considerable herds, Mr. A. W. Brown's being perhaps the largest.

From Stettler last week were shipped 14 cars (215 head) of cattle for Hochelaga, by Mr. R. T. Ferguson. The consignment was composed of drafts from the ranches of Stocken & Travers, Lane & Clymie and Joe Doan.

From Red Deer Messrs. Geissinger, Root, Reed & Powne shipped the record (for Red Deer) bunch of steers. They were for Chicago and good prices were paid notwithstanding the duty.

In connection with this export trade a prominent Live Stock Commission firm of the Union Stock Yards at Chicago say "A good fat, strong weight lot of Canadian grass cattle would sell readily around \$6.00 here averaging 1,350 to 1,400 pounds. A recent consignment of nine car loads from Red Deer, Alta., consisted of two-year-old steers and cows. The steers sold for feeders at \$4.00 to \$4.60. The market is well supplied in this respect, but there is a scarcity of fat grass steers averaging 1,250 to 1,400 pounds and we believe that this class can be shipped to good advantage this season from the Canadian Northwest. We do not advise shipping light weight steers and feeders. Good thick fat cows and heifers sell well.

Some of the American agricultural papers are discussing the feasibility of importing young stock to run on the ranges of Southern Alberta, with a view to reimportation after they show the benefits of the superior feed obtainable on this side the boundary. The duty question seems a difficult proposition, but difficulties exist for the successful man to overcome and it seems not unreasonable to suppose that some special arrangement might be tried by the customs department to facilitate the establishment of a new branch of agricultural industry which might benefit both Albertans and Americans. In a few years perhaps Canada might be able to raise all the stock her southern ranges can hold, but the chances are she will not be able to do so, in view of the large demand for both home markets and export to Great Britain. It is thought that this year, on account of the heavy drain last fall for export and the losses during the severe winter, the shipments of cattle will show a marked decrease as compared with 1906 and it may take several years for the country, out of its own resources, to be in a position to again export so freely as last fall. The

ranges do not reap any benefit by being left ungrazed by stock but rather improve by being grazed and manured by not too large a herd per acre, also to, if unoccupied, an appreciable portion of the natural wealth of the province is lying idle, so that, for a limited term of years, there should be room for an industry profitable to the rancher and the province in the shape of grazing American steers under some kind of bonded system.

Inspector C. E. Denny has issued to the ranchers in Alberta a letter on the prevention of Mange, which should prove of interest to owners of stock in any part, as the prevention of this disease before it can spread and become established in the herd is of such extreme importance. Any, too, who, living in Saskatchewan or Manitoba, may be purchasing stock from Alberta will feel more gratified to learn that the authorities and the stock owners are so fully alive to their duties in this respect. The shipping of the 1907 crop has commenced. Two carloads of Red Winter, graded No. 1 Alberta Red, passed through Calgary from Lethbridge en route for B. C. last week.

Horticulture and Forestry

Fall Bulbs.

BY D. W. BUCHANAN, DIRECTOR BUCHANAN NURSERY CO.

The term "fall bulbs" or "autumn bulbs" is not applied as might be supposed, to plants that bloom in the fall. In fact quite the contrary is the case, for these so-called fall bulbs are the first to put in their appearance in the spring. They are called fall bulbs because they are planted in the fall. These bulbs are also commonly known as Dutch bulbs, from the fact that the Dutch have been in the past and are still perhaps, the principal growers of bulbs for fall planting. The cultivation of these bulbs is quite an extensive industry in Holland.

Those who contemplate planting fall bulbs should not procrastinate. There are two good reasons for beginning early. In the first place the early purchaser will get the choicest bulbs, and this is a very important point. A small, puny bulb cannot produce a fine display of bloom. The bulb is the flower in embryo. The flower is already formed in the bulb and much of the food for the production of the bloom in the following spring is also stored in the bulb. This accounts for the fact that the plants make such rapid growth early in the spring, and display their glories before most other perennial flowers have put in an appearance.

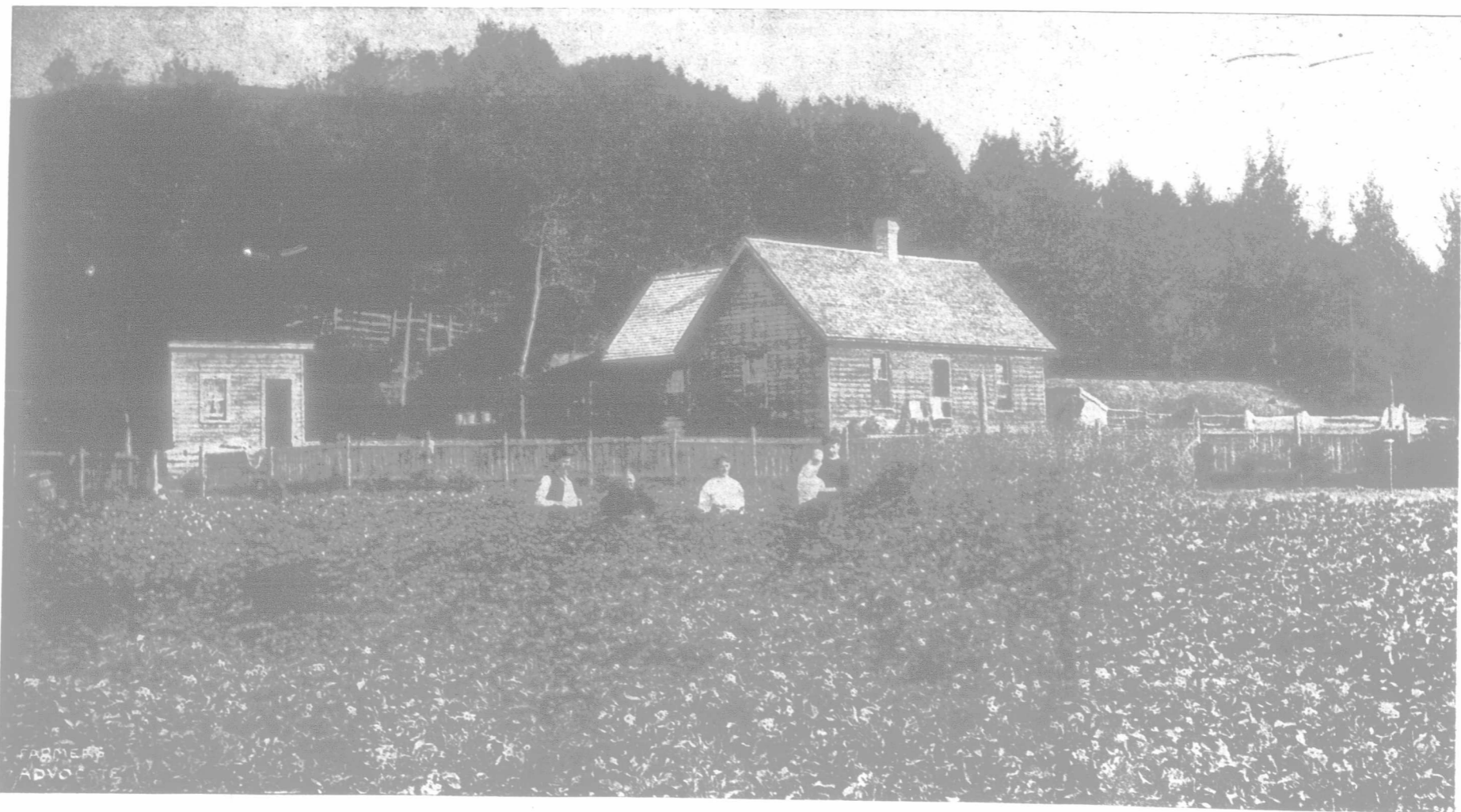
It is also advisable to plant early, to allow the bulb to become established in the soil before severe freezing weather sets in. Those who intend planting should therefore be at it at once.

The species and varieties of fall bulbs that can be grown successfully in our prairie provinces are not nearly as large as perhaps many of our people have

been accustomed to in their former homes, but all the same that is not a good reason for neglecting to plant those that can be grown here. It is surely worth while making an effort to have some of those beautiful early flowers about the home to add to the pleasure of the early spring days.

For outdoor planting, tulips are by all odds the most satisfactory for our climate. Tulips may be seen in many gardens about Winnipeg every spring. In some instances they have had no greater care than a place in the lawn among the grass, and in such positions they will sometimes thrive for years, appearing each spring and disappearing as the tops die down in the summer or are removed by the lawn mower. Tulip bulbs should be planted in September or early in October. Good results have sometimes been had from later planting but to delay the planting is not advisable. Avoid damp places for planting bulbs or, in fact, almost all hardy herbaceous perennials. Many plants are lost from lack of drainage, though it is common to attribute such losses to Jack Frost. But Jack is not always to blame, damp, soggy soil causes the bulbs and also the roots of other plants to decay. When a plant fails to appear in the spring at the proper time, the question of excessive moisture may often be taken into consideration in thinking of the cause of the loss as well as the matter of low temperature. Perennial plants are also destroyed by mulching sometimes. Mulch may be put in too early, or too heavily. The best mulch is plenty of snow, and where there is a good snow cover very little other protection will be found necessary. We like to treat the perennial border much the same as the strawberry plantation in the matter of mulch, and that is, put the mulch on top of the snow. An early fall of snow before the mulch has been applied is very desirable. There is no danger of smothering plants with a heavy mulch on top of a fall of snow. We have put on a foot of straw and never lost a plant from mulching in that way. This plan forms an excellent protection against an early thaw with a freeze-up later. If snow does not come, tulips, as well as, most other herbaceous perennials will require some protection. This should not be put on until freezing weather sets in. A heavy mulch put on too early may result in smothering many of the plants in the herbaceous border.

But we are digressing from the subject of bulbs for fall planting and running into generalities. It is advisable to plant the fall bulbs fairly deep, six inches is not too deep in a loose friable soil. This may be reduced to four inches in heavy soil. Those who wish to go extensively into bulbs, should make up a special mixture by using sand and good garden soil. Some of the lilies and other more tender bulbs, that are not fully hardy here, may be grown by preparing special beds and planting the bulb about a foot deep. In this case a layer of a few inches of sand is placed in the bottom and the bulbs are placed directly on the sand, and then covered with the prepared soil. If ordinary soil was used especially of our heavy Red River Valley class, it is not likely that the plants would ever see daylight covered this deep, but with a carefully prepared soil they will appear



AN EDMONTON POTATO PATCH.