



The Canadian Northern Elevator at Port Arthur is the Largest in the World. Capacity, 7,250,000 Bushels

THE IMPORTANCE OF EARLY SOWING

Frere Chrystotele of Notre Dame de Levis, Quebec, one of our valued corps of crop correspondents, when sending in his December report, wrote as follows:

"Many farmers, whether their ground be ready or not, do not sow their spring grain until a given date. This is wrong. One cannot too much impress upon farmers that they should sow as soon as the land is ready. This is what we do. Experience has taught us that grain which remains longer underground weighs more than that which is in the earth for a less time, both having the

same conditions of favorable weather from seed time to harvest. One year we sowed oats on April 26; it weighed 39 lbs. to the bushel, whilst that sown on May 15, of the same year, which ripened four or five days later than the other, only weighed 32 lbs. to the bushel."

In this connection we may recall the early sowing experiments carried on at the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa during the ten years 1890-1899. The average of these experiments showed that a delay of one week after the earliest time practicable for sowing entailed a loss of over 30 p. c., two weeks of 40 p. c., and three weeks of 56 p. c., of the crop in the case of wheat.