

resolved into the original elements or compounds, these in turn become part of the food of higher forms of plant life. On the other hand, animals are not able to subsist upon inorganic materials alone ; they are dependent on the vegetable forms of life. Some of the higher forms of animal life consume products from the bodies of other animals which in turn had been nourished by plants of some sort. Grass grows by taking in some 13 elements from the soil and air : the wheat plant is a variety of grass and grows in the same way : a cow and ox eat grass or grain : and man drinks the milk of the one and eats the flesh of the other, with bread from the flour of the wheat.

### Capacity of Canada for Production.

In Canada, the soil, the climate, and the intelligence and industry of the people are favorable for the production of a great variety of food products of exceptionally fine qualities from farms, gardens, orchards and vineyards ; and the extensive sea coasts, vast lakes, rivers and streams abound with the finest of fish. From its geographical position, its railway systems and unsurpassed steamship service for freight across the Atlantic, the export trade in food products can be greatly extended with European countries to the mutual benefit of Canada and the countries which purchase from her.

The production of foods is the main aim of farming operations : and over 45 per cent of the population of Canada are engaged in agricultural occupations. There are vast areas of fertile soil from the Atlantic to the Pacific oceans, and the climate or climates range from subtropical to subarctic, with a rainfall varying from 67 inches per annum in British Columbia, 17 inches in Manitoba, to from 30 to 45 inches in the Provinces of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. The mainland practically lies between 60° W. longitude and 125° W. longitude. The distance across Canada from East to West is rather more than one-