

potato crop is more or less patchy. A few correspondents report the crop above average, but the majority say it will be short. The turnip crop will be 25% below the average, due to wet weather and to cutworm. Apples give promise of a good crop, and plums will be very abundant. Pastures are good, but the milk supply is not up to last year. Eggs were very plentiful.

Results from Warm Weather in Essex.

The unexpected and unusual warm weather of the past four weeks, has wrought wonders in Essex. No one would have ventured a prediction relative to such a phenomenal change in the various late summer and early autumn crops one month ago, as has occurred. Just as the unusual, cool weather of July had its beneficial effect upon certain products, so the warmth of a later date has caused a radical change upon two, especially of our most valuable crops. Corn has advanced with amazing strides, and now the consensus of opinion places the yield of 1912 as holding a record for quantity and quality. Early planted fields are now being harvested, giving ample opportunity of determining the nature and bulk thereof. The majority are agreed in stating that corn has eared remarkably well. Almost every stalk has two large well-developed, well-filled ears. Some have three, and in one instance the writer saw four produced from a single stalk. On the farm of A. Pearson & Sons, West Tilbury, where cutting is in progress, may be seen one of the finest samples of corn-growing in Essex. This farm is kept in the highest stage of efficiency by under-drainage, manuring, rotation of crops and general cultivation, and gives enormous returns to its owners. Careful selection of seed enables them to secure a good stand, which is essential to an early harvest. Many fields late in planting are now promising well, and should the present warm weather continue for another fortnight, will yield an abundance of fodder. Tomatoes also have been benefited by the warm spell and are yielding a large harvest, but owing to lack of efficiency manifested by the canning company in handling the same, are causing no little anxiety and vexation among the producers. Many fields are red with ripe and ripening tomatoes, but the factories are not supplying sufficient crates to secure the removal thereof. Farmers are realizing more than ever the need of competition among the canneries, and it would be well for the Canadian Canning Co., if they would seek more fully to recognize the requirements of producers, and give less attention to securing of enormous dividends. Yields are unusually large. In many instances from 400 to 800 bushels per acre, but much is being lost owing to negligence on the part of purchasers. Onions have also received benefit from the heat of September, as it has resulted in overcoming the tendency to thickness in many sections. The crop promises to be one of the largest in the history of Essex. Attracted by such natural phenomena, crowds of homeseekers are still coming to Essex while prices are ascending.

A. E.

\$11.00 Steers at Chicago.

Prime 1,557-pound mixed Shorthorn and Hereford steers, fed by A. E. Ebersald, of Union Star, Mo., sold to Armour & Company on the Chicago market Wednesday, Sept. 18th, at \$11 per hundredweight, the highest price paid on the open market in trade history. Mixed yearlings also reached a record figure, \$10.40 and \$9.75 was the new record price hung up for a short load of heavy range heaves. The \$11 a hundred mark is the highest quotation for beef recorded at the Union Stock-yards since the civil war. Dealers at the stock-yards with sporting proclivities are now preparing odds that the price of first-class steers around Christmas will be \$15 a hundred pounds.

High-Scoring Oat Fields in Nova Scotia.

Never was the demand for eggs in Eastern Nova Scotia so great before. Even in Antigonish, where eggs are supposed to be more plentiful and cheaper than in other counties, they have during the month of August jumped from twenty cents to twenty-five cents per dozen. The demand is even greater than the supply; the poultryman is smiling and the consumer is grumbling.

Butter is not too plentiful; the price is about twenty-two cents per pound.

The flow of milk is fairly plentiful just at present (writing early in September). One farmer, who has four milk cows, took 127 lbs. of milk to the factory the other day (two milkings); he also kept enough milk home for the house, and also for a good calf he is rearing. The pastures at present are good and the brooks are full.

Cattle, horses and other animals were during all summer mainly free from horse flies, the summer being too cold for them. Black flies were numerous.

Through Eastern Nova Scotia the hay crop was behind that of last season, although farmers who had intervals to fall back on, came out with a good crop of hay.

Oats throughout the County is excellent. The Standing Field Competition has been judged. The

majority of fields were over 90 per cent.; some as high as 97 per cent. Last season the highest was under 92 per cent. The Oat straw is good.

Wheat is fair. Potatoes are large and of good quality. At one farm the R. Rose potato during August yielded 176 bushels to the acre.

Plums are fairly plentiful throughout the Province. Burbank plums have been imported from Ontario, but do not come up to the plums of the same variety received from King's Co., N.S. The apple outlook is fairly good. A few English buyers are already touring the Valley, investigating the apple outlook.

J. M.

A Pest at the Fair.

"The officers of the Minnesota State Fair are entitled to great credit for being probably the first to adopt a policy to relieve visitors to the fair from the insistence of the pestilential newspaper solicitor. At a meeting of the managers of the fair, held on August 28th, the following was adopted:

"Believing that the policy of offering premiums in connection with soliciting subscriptions for various periodicals is a pernicious practice and a great annoyance to fair visitors, and should no longer be permitted upon the Minnesota State Fair ground, it is resolved by the board of managers of the said Minnesota Fair that the use of any article of merchandise, either for sale or as a gift or inducement in connection with the soliciting of subscriptions for papers be and is hereby absolutely prohibited."

The enforcement of the foregoing resolution will be greatly appreciated, not only by visitors to the state fair who are obliged to force their way through a horde of agents armed with fountain pens, spectacles and farm tools of different kinds, but by the publishers of legitimate newspapers as well. The use of a premium to induce the farmer to subscribe for an agricultural paper is in itself an admission by the publisher that the paper is not worth the price asked for it. Farm paper publishers are like other folks: they do not willingly give something for nothing. They can not afford to, and maintain high standards for their papers. There are a number of farm papers which are not good enough to command the support of discriminating farmers, and in order to get circulation which they may sell to advertisers, the publishers have been forced to adopt the policy of giving the farmer some article which seems to be worth the price asked for the paper and the article combined. The solicitors employed by these papers are usually paid on a commission basis, and in their anxiety to secure business they have become an intolerable nuisance wherever met with. Some years ago the Iowa State Fair adopted the policy of requiring solicitors to confine their operations to the neighborhood of their own tents or headquarters. This afforded some relief to the visitor, but the policy adopted by the Minnesota people is much better.

Subscription agents who give premiums of any kind to induce people to subscribe should be barred from every fair ground. The papers they represent are not worthy of a place. Give the papers booth space in different parts of the grounds if they wish, and confine the solicitors to the booths. That will give the farmer a fair chance to escape. It is an outrage to permit solicitors to prey upon the visitors as they do at so many fairs."—Wallace's Farmer (Iowa.)

Wheat Crop in Many Countries.

The following table gives the 1912 wheat production of all the countries which have made their official reports to the International Institute of Agriculture, including the information received at Ottawa from Rome up to September 21st:

	1912 Bushels.	1911 Bushels.
Prussia	90,471,000	95,741,000
Belgium	15,295,000	14,617,000
Bulgaria	63,750,000	72,005,000
Denmark	3,885,000	4,469,000
Spain	112,416,000	148,497,000
France	335,041,000	320,142,000
England and Wales	58,568,000	59,956,000
Hungary	183,601,000	190,100,000
Italy	165,523,000	192,397,000
Luxemburg	654,000	641,000
Roumania	89,417,000	95,657,000
Russian Empire	749,941,000	509,501,000
Switzerland	3,399,000	3,524,000
Canada	206,029,000	215,851,000
United States	690,000,000	621,338,000
India	366,930,000	374,845,000
Japan	24,453,000	24,851,000
Egypt	28,948,000	38,046,000
Tunis	4,226,000	8,635,000
Totals	3,192,547,000	2,990,813,000

The 1912 production of wheat in the countries which have so far reported to the Institute is 106.7 per cent. of that of 1911. The production of rye in the countries reported is 1,588,000,000 bushels, or 117.7 per cent. of last year; barley, 1,174,000,000, or 105.7 per cent. of last year; oats, 3,297,000,000, or 117.8 per cent. of last year; corn, 3,616,000,000, or 117 per cent. of last year.

How the National Exhibition is Hampered.

W. K. McNaught, M.P.P., one of the directors of the National Exhibition, Toronto, has written the newspapers a letter defending the conduct and policy of the show against a recent criticism. The force of several of the most definite complaints is, however, practically admitted, such as the absence of seating on the grounds, for which the city council is blamed, the inadequacy of the present live-stock buildings and the want of a proper judging arena, which they propose to make fire-proof and capable of seating 10,000 or 12,000 people. The proper location for it is, Mr. McNaught points out, north of the grand-stand, on ground now occupied by cattle sheds. This will involve the acquisition of more land east of the present live-stock quarters on what is known as the Garrison Common, to which a portion at least of the buildings would be removed or new ones erected. The reason assigned for delay in this matter is that the council has not secured possession of the space required, and for this the blame is laid at the door of the Dominion Government, which should, under agreement, have vacated the barracks long ago. An eastern entrance to the grounds is a long standing need of the fair, but this can soon be provided, since the grade of the steam railways has recently been completed.

B. C. Live Stock Commissioner.

W. T. McDonald, B.S.A., an Ontario boy, has been appointed Live-stock Commissioner for British Columbia. Mr. McDonald graduated from the Agricultural College at Guelph in 1903; then he undertook agricultural journalism in Minnesota, on the staff of The Farmer, at the same time giving lectures at the Agricultural College. Post-graduate work was taken at Ames College, Iowa, after which he became Professor of Animal Husbandry and Dairying at Oklahoma Agricultural College, and had charge of the thousand-acre farm. For the last four years he has been in Washington State in charge of the Department of Animal Husbandry, and in revolutionizing the live-stock industry of the State the attention of the British Columbia authorities was drawn to such an extent that they decided to secure him as Live-stock Commissioner. Being practical and college-trained, and in addition a good organizer, he can be depended upon to do things in the Pacific Province.

New Field-Husbandry Building for Guelph.

Plans for a new Field-Husbandry building, in connection with the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph, have been approved by Hon. Jas. Duff, Minister of Agriculture. It is to be a two-story, brick structure, costing in the neighborhood of \$40,000, to be taken entirely from the Federal grant. It will be located opposite Prof. Zavitz's house. On the ground floor provision will be made for the offices of the Field-Husbandry Department, a large class-room, laboratories, and a space adapted for seed selection, etc. The second floor will contain a large auditorium, which will be used as a short-course class-room. We believe a room in the new building will be devoted to the museum, the removal of which from its present location will make still further class-room accommodation.

Cattle Killing and Hide Values.

The Toronto newspapers recently published a letter received by Beardmore & Co. from Morris & Co., the large Chicago packing-house firm. The communication reads in part as follows:

"In looking over our summary of cattle killed for the past week, the writer was amazed to notice that we had salted only 46 native steer hides. For several weeks back our Chicago kill has been between 500 and 600 hides, which in itself is ridiculously small, because during the equivalent weeks of last year we killed about two and a half times as many. However, on making inquiries of our chief beef man for the reason for this small kill last week, he stated that there was only a small percentage of native steers on the market."

An Order-in-Council has been passed by the Dominion Government, amending those sections of the Destructive Insects and Pests Act, which deal with the potato canker, by the substitution of a clause prohibiting the importation of all potatoes from Europe, in addition to Newfoundland and other points mentioned.

J. C. Smith, B.S.A., a graduate of the Manitoba Agricultural College, has been appointed successor to Paul M. Brett, who recently resigned the live-stock commissionership of Saskatchewan. For some months Mr. Smith has been an assistant in the office.

Because of the continued cool, wet weather throughout Ontario, it is anticipated that the potato crop will not be as large or marketable as anticipated. Naturally, results are more serious on undrained clay lands.