

ACREAGE AND AGRICULTURE IN MANITOBA.

Increased Interest in Mixed Farming—Dairying—
Crop Will Show Increase.

The abundant rainfall last autumn, in nearly all portions of Manitoba, left the land moist and in excellent condition for fall cultivation, while the fine weather that followed in the spring was almost continuous, and enabled farmers to make rapid progress with seeding. The crop correspondents agree in their statements that the seeding conditions have been ideal throughout the whole season.

Where the moist soil was properly cultivated, germination was even and rapid, but because of the unusually cold weather growth has been slow, and at this date the crops are not as far advanced as usual. Now that warm, moist weather has set in, rapid growth may be expected after this date, however.

Some Increases and Decreases

A brief analysis of the crops shows an increase in the area devoted to wheat. Owing to the small amount of fall plowing reported in 1912 this was particularly noticeable. Oats show a slight decrease, but barley an abnormal increase of nearly 191,000 acres. This can be accounted for by the fact that it succeeds best on spring plowing and apparently much of land formerly devoted to flax is now occupied by barley.

The decrease of over 81,000 acres in the flax area is the natural result of the unsatisfactory returns from this crop in 1912. Peas show an increase of more than 25 per cent., which is gratifying in view of the fact that this grain is one of the most useful foods for fattening stock.

There is cause for satisfaction in the large increase also to be noted in grasses and clovers, the figures showing over 17,000 acres more than last year, states the latest bulletin of Manitoba's Department of Agriculture and Immigration. This, combined with the increase in barley and the general increase in the number of live stock, indicates that the farmers of Manitoba are entering largely into mixed farming.

Four Years' Results

The following table gives a comparison of area of the principal crops for the last four years:

	1910	1911	1912	1913
Wheat	3,118,092	3,339,072	3,123,091	3,141,218
Oats	1,564,669	1,628,562	1,939,982	1,939,723
Barley	657,520	759,977	962,928	1,153,834
Flax	41,002	85,836	196,315	115,054
Potatoes	40,745	44,478	51,878	55,743
Roots	11,782	13,448	14,109	16,275
Total	5,596,061	6,032,037	6,288,303	6,421,847

An increased interest in dairying, and the other higher forms of farming, is manifest, and particularly in the older sections of the province, where a number of new creameries have been established during the past year, bringing the total in Manitoba to twenty-nine. There are also 17 cheese factories.

Live stock in the province, numbers are as below:—horses, 300,753; pigs, 248,254; sheep, 52,142; cattle, 456,936.

CANADA'S FIRE LOSSES

Fire insurance companies have, since 1869, paid losses in Canada, aggregating \$213,568,106—a heavy score for the fire waste.

SOLD BONDS TO LOCAL INVESTORS.

Kingsville, Ont., has disposed of \$14,906 5 per cent. debentures to local investors, reports Mr. G. Pearse, the town clerk, to *The Monetary Times*.

NO LACK OF MONEY.

There is no lack of money for investment in London at present, says Mr. J. W. McConnell, the well-known Montreal financier, who has just returned from Europe. As soon as the investors come to realize that Canada will continue to forge ahead, he thinks money in very great quantities will again flow towards the Dominion. Up to the present it has been hard for them to realize that western towns are increasing at the rate of five and ten thousand a year in population, and that in consequence the legitimate demand for more streets, etc., cannot be ignored by the municipalities who are consequently obliged to go into the market and borrow money to keep up with the requirements.

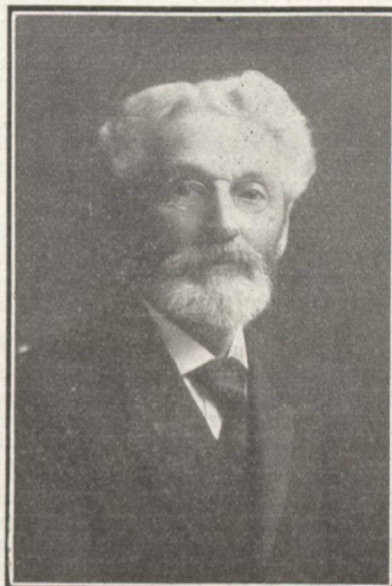
NEW MANAGER OF NORTHERN LIFE.

Mr. W. J. McMurtry Has Received the Appointment
With Well Known London Insurance Company.

Early in the present month, Mr. W. J. McMurtry received the appointment of manager of the Northern Life Assurance Company, vacant by the resignation of Mr. John Milne, who has been its manager since the inception of the company in 1896.

The new manager is an Ontario man, beginning his business life as a merchant in Bowmanville. He spent some years in banking at various points in Ontario, and in 1888 removed to Toronto in the service of the Mutual Reserve Fund Life. Later he entered the employ of the Independent Order of Foresters, enjoying for years the confidence of its later and much improved administration.

Mr. McMurtry is a good all-round business man, and has a grasp of life assurance as well as a sufficient knowledge of commercial affairs in Canada. In earlier years he was promi-



W. J. McMURTRY.

Recently Appointed Manager of the Northern Life Insurance Company, London, Ontario.

ent in military matters and served in the Northwest during the troublous times of 1870, retiring from the Canadian militia in September, 1874, with the rank of major.

During his long resident in Toronto, while a hard worker, he has not neglected sport. As a Tankard-winner at curling for the Granite Club, he figured in different years, and has won many trophies at the game of lawn-bowls.

Mr. McMurtry has good administrative ability, natural probity, and an appreciation of the great significance of life assurance, which leads to the belief that his conduct of the affairs of the Northern Life will be in accord with the estimable principles and methods which have characterized the company since it was founded by Mr. Milne.

COBALT ORE SHIPMENTS

The following are the shipments of ore, in pounds, from Cobalt Station for the week ended June 20th:—

Cobalt Townsite M., 50,130; Crown Reserve, 40,000; La Rose Mines, 100,000; Cobalt Lake, 63,100; Hudson Bay M., 64,582; McKinley-Darragh B. M., 126,072; Nipissing, 120,824; Temiskaming, 62,421. Total, 636,129. The total shipments since January 1st, are now 19,037,737 pounds or 9,518 tons.

In 1904 the camp produced 158 tons, valued at \$316,217; in 1905, 2,144, valued at \$1,437,106; in 1906, 5,835 tons; in 1907, 4,850 tons; in 1908, 29,360 tons; in 1909, 29,941 tons; in 1910, 34,041 tons; in 1911, 25,089 tons; in 1912, 21,509 tons.

The Polar Ice Company has changed its name to the Polar Ice and Coal Company.

The Right of Way Mining Company has surrendered its charter to the Mining Department of the Ontario Government, and direction has been given for the dissolution of the company on July 7.