

And now as to the wild oats, I think, that this is one of the hardest questions farmers have to solve, stink weed, mustard, etc., are nothing to be compared to wild oats, and to all farmers who have not got them on their farms I would advise them to be careful of their seed. Watch where the thresher comes from, and also watch the settings, for just as sure as oats are allowed to spread there will be trouble, and all your readers who do not know wild oats from tame should find out as quickly as possible. I know that they were on my farm before I knew the difference, but I know them now to my sorrow. I summer fallowed last year, I ploughed, disced and harrowed to keep them down and thought I should have very few on my fallow, but I had a greater crop than ever. I have now cut ten acres, while green, with the mower, in hopes of killing them. Don't you think, if, fellow farmers were to meet—at any rate during the winter months, say once a month—we could do each other a lot of good, by discussing the best methods of doing our farm work? One man would have one way, and another would have a different way, and by coming together, it would be a mutual benefit. When I first came here, when the railroad was a hundred miles away we used to meet every two weeks and discuss these questions. We would hold the meetings from farm house to farm house, and we used to look forward to the meetings, and farmers would drive ten or fifteen miles to them. But now our aim seems to be merely how much wheat we can grow, neglecting the best part of our lives, that is mutual fellowship.

S. E. Sask.

"FARMER."

The Degree Course at the M.A.C.

The agricultural college calendar for 1908-09, issued recently, contains in addition to the outline of the regular two years course, an outline of the course for the B. S. A., degree, which, as was announced through these columns recently, the college has arranged to put on. The degree course extends over a period of five years of five months each. Two options are offered in which students may specialize during the last year and a half of the course, viz., agriculture and dairying. The agricultural option includes field and animal husbandry, and the subjects taken up are those ordinarily covered in advanced work in agricultural colleges, studies of grains and grasses, plant breeding, seed selection, manures and manuring, being among the practical subjects dealt with, while the scientific studies, physics, chemistry, biology, bacteriology, veterinary science, etc., are thoroughly gone into. In addition there is some work in horticulture, forestry and agricultural engineering. The work in English in the advanced course, except for the third year is not outlined, but this subject will be taken up during the fourth and fifth years as well, and should be made one of the strongest in the whole course. In animal husbandry, judging, breeding, feeding and management of stock, studies of the breed, pedigrees and breed records will occupy a good portion of the time. Outline of the work in the dairy option is not very complete. During the two final years it will include lectures and practice in butter and cheese making, milk testing, etc., augmented by some lectures on dairy cattle, swine feeding and management and practical work in judging. Students in this option will require to have at least one year's experience in practical work in a cheese factory or creamery.

Present indications are that the first class in the advanced course will number somewhere between six and ten. With the facilities now at hand this will be about as many as the regular staff can manage with. The laboratory equipment and staff of instructors will soon require to be largely increased.

Events of the Week.

CANADIAN.

Earl Roberts has been compelled, on account of his health, to cancel his western trip and returns at once to England.

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A select team of cricket players from Winnipeg is representing the Dominion at the cricket tourney at St. Louis.

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Toronto dog owners are up in arms against an ordinance of the city council, requiring dogs to be led by a string when on the streets.

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This is old boys' week in several Ontario cities and towns. Guelph and London are welcoming their sons and daughters from various parts of the continent, and various other towns in the province are holding celebrations.

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All the mechanics on the C. P. R. system from St. Johns to Vancouver laid down their tools last Wednesday morning at ten o'clock, and work will not again be resumed until the differences between the mechanical unions and the company are satisfactorily adjusted. About ten thousand men have quit work. The departments of the service involved are the shops, round houses and repair yards. The workmen who are out include blacksmiths, boilermakers, car men, electricians, moulders, machinists, pipe fitters, shop specialists and helpers.

The worst disaster in the history of western Canada occurred on Aug. 1st, and 2nd, when a fire swept up the East Kootenay district in B. C., traversing the Crow's Nest line of the C. P. R. and practically wiped Fernie, Hosmer and Michel from the map. The origination of the fire is unknown. It swept over a strip of forest about fifty miles in length licking up the towns that lay in its way. Six thousand people were rendered homeless, and from twenty to fifty lives lost. The damage is estimated at five millions. Towns and cities all over the country have responded liberally in money and aid. Fernie will be immediately rebuilt.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

A theatrical merger involving nearly every theatre in the United States seems likely to be formed. The value of the property involved is about half a billion dollars.

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Israel Zangwill, the noted Jewish author, will visit America shortly to further the Jewish territorial movement, by systematizing the immigration of Russian Jews into the southern and western districts of the republic.

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A delegation of women suffragists attempted to call on President Roosevelt last week. It was necessary to put on extra guards about the chief magistrate's summer residence to keep the women out.

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A wild man was captured in Central Park, New York City the other day, by a policeman. He was eating grass and leaves when found, and otherwise acting like a wild animal.

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The warship Indomitable, carrying the Prince of Wales, made a record run from Quebec to England last week, covering the distance from port to port at a speed of over 25 knots per hour.

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Bryan and Taft are using the phonograph in the presidential campaign to reach the electors. Each candidate has a set of speeches on record which are run off on the machines for the enlightenment of the electorate.

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A cigarette dropped in a barrel in a Chicago warehouse, started a conflagration that wiped out several warehouses and elevators, burned up several hundred thousand bushels of wheat, rendered useless a hundred box cars, and did damage altogether to the extent of a million dollars.

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The report of the fruit division of the department of agriculture for the month of July has just been issued. It states that weather conditions in Canada have been favorable during the month of July for the fruit industry.

Apples are estimated somewhat lower for July than June. Early and fall apples are estimated as slightly above medium, winter apples at less than medium crop. The quality is good.

Pears are reported a light crop, except in British Columbia and southern Ontario, where a medium crop is expected. Early peaches are reported a full crop. Late peaches are reported light to medium.

Plums are reported light generally. In British Columbia certain sections report a medium crop. In the Georgian Bay district three or four varieties promises well. Grapes are reported a full crop. Strawberries and raspberries have been reduced by dry weather but the average has been very good. Other small fruits are yielding, or promise a full crop. Insects and fungous diseases are not so prevalent as usual.

MARKETS

Wheat was very erratic all last week. On Tuesday the American exchanges ran wild for a time and prices mounted upwards. The advance came on bull reports sent in by Snow from the Dakotas and Minnesota. "Black rust worse than in 1904," was the message that sent wheat up from 2 to 2½ cents at almost a single bound. Chicago and Minneapolis are both sensitive to bull news, and respond quickly on any rumor of crop damage. Winnipeg advanced from ½ cent to 2½ on the various options. Lately the black rust reports seemed to have lessened, and during the next day or two prices again gradually subsided. The northwest is the big factor in the wheat world just now.

From no other part of the world is there any news of an alarming character. In Europe the harvest is well on. Britain is harvesting an average crop. Reports from Italy, France, Germany and the southeastern continental wheat growing states, indicate a favorable condition of affairs. Cutting is well advanced. Some injury is noted from excessive rains in Germany, and the Danube country, but nothing serious. Conditions in the Russian empire are difficult to determine. Contradictory reports filter through, but the impression gathered is that a fair crop will be reaped. It is the crop in North America, from the corn belt north, that is the feature just now in the wheat market.

Down through the corn states there is anxiety as to this cereal. Snow's summary of corn conditions for August places this crop rather lower than for August last year. Dry weather in a good many sections is undoubtedly affecting corn and indirectly the corn crop is going to influence wheat to quite an extent.

Some new wheat was shown on the Winnipeg exchange this week. It graded No. 1 northern. Barley cutting was in full swing all over the west last week, and oats are now on. Wheat will be general at the end of this week. Prices as we go to press are as follows:

1 hard.....	108
1 northern.....	107
2 northern.....	104
3 northern.....	101
No. 4.....	97
No. 5.....	87½
No. 6.....	78½
Feed 1.....	70
Feed 2.....	60
No. 2 white oats.....	44½
No. 3 white.....	44
Rejected.....	40
No. 3 barley.....	48
No. 4 barley.....	46
Feed.....	40½
Flax, N. W.....	122

OPTION QUOTATIONS.

	Sept.	Oct.	Dec.
Wheat.....	99½	96½	95½
Oats—			
No. 2 white.....		39½	

PRODUCE AND MILL FEED.

Net	per ton—
Bran.....	\$19.00
Shorts.....	21.00
Chopped Feeds—	
Barley and oats.....	26.00
Barley.....	25.00
Oats.....	28.00
Oatmeal and millfeed.....	19.00
Wheat chop.....	22.00
Hay per ton (cars on track, Winnipeg), prairie hay.....	6.00@ \$ 7.00
Timothy.....	12.00@ 14.00
Loads.....	6.00@ 7.00
Baled straw.....	5.00@ 6.00

BUTTER, CHEESE AND EGGS.

Fancy fresh-made creamery bricks.....	22½	@	23
Boxes, 14 to 28 lbs.....	22	@	23
DAIRY BUTTER—			
Extra fancy prints.....	21½	@	22
Dairy, in tubs.....	20½	@	22½
CHEESE—			
Manitoba cheese at Winnipeg.....	13		
Eastern cheese.....	13½	@	13½
EGGS—			
Manitoba, fresh-gathered f. o. b. Winnipeg.....	21		

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes, car lots, per bu.....	\$0.85
Potatoes, small lots, per bu.....	.75
Beets, per bu.....	.90
Celery, per doz.....	.40
Onions, per cwt.....	3.00

LIVESTOCK.

Receipts of live-stock at Winnipeg for the week just closed have been rather light. Export stuff has been especially slack. There is the usual run of butchers' killing stock, in fact too much of it for the demand. Export prices for the week average around four cents. Butcher stock is selling at from \$2.75 to \$3.25. Hogs had been coming forward in fair numbers, but fell off seriously towards the close of the week. They are still quoted at six cents. Hog demand is active. Prices are hardly expected to strengthen but will likely be maintained. Sheep and lamb deliveries, nil; calves a few sold at about four cents.

CHICAGO.

Rangers are reported arriving in liberal numbers. The demand for cattle of average quality is slack. For cattle worth over six dollars per cwt., there is good inquiry, but low priced stuff is clogging up the market. Lower prices for native stuff seem inevitable in view of the heavy receipt of westerners. Prices are: Western rangers, \$3.65 to \$7.05; Texas cattle, \$3.85 to \$5.00; fat cows, \$2.70 to \$5.50; heifers, \$2.65 to \$5.25; bulls, \$2.00 to \$4.00; calves, \$3.00 to \$7.50; stockers and feeders, \$2.50 to \$4.75. Hogs, \$6.10 to \$6.90. Sheep, native ewes, \$2.75 to \$4.25; western yearlings, \$4.50 to \$4.65; native lambs, \$4.25 to \$6.50; western lambs, \$4.25 to \$6.55.

TORONTO.

Toronto live-stock deliveries for the week past have been good. Prices all around are ruling a little lower. Good cattle are in demand, but not too plentiful. Export business is reported fair. Prices are: Export steers, \$5.00 to \$5.50; bulls, \$3.75 to \$4.50; butchers stock, \$4.50 to \$4.75; cows, \$2.50 to \$3.75. Hogs, \$6.65 to \$6.90.