

as glass. Grit must be supplied in some form, and is most important. Lime must also be given, as it is needed for the making of the shells of the eggs.

Just now I am selling eggs at fifty cents per dozen, and find a good market for them at that price.

There is nothing that pays so well on a farm as poultry if well looked after. The best producing hen in the country if cared for as many farmers do will soon stop laying.

The house for good layers is not one that goes down to 20° or 30° below zero at nights. A house that only goes down to freezing point at night, and is nice and light in the day time is the one in which the hens will keep busy all day and keep themselves warm and not consume all the food in keeping up their body heat, but will have some left to go into egg production.

The hens should have a mash about three times a week to give them a change.

In very cold weather I find it advisable to warm any threshed grain I feed, as if you get it out of a cold bin it will have the frost in it, and as soon as the birds have eaten a little of it they will all crowd together trying to get warm. By thawing out the grain before feeding it you will find the hens will keep busy nearly all day provided you keep plenty of straw on the floor for them to walk in. This makes work for you, but it pays, especially during such weather as we have had since the New Year.

I will be pleased to help our readers at any time, as I want to see poultry keeping a success in Manitoba, which I am sure it is going to be.

South Cypress Mun., Man. (MRS.) A. COOPER.

Relations between Japan and the United States are again becoming a little strained, due to the action of the legislature of California in passing a measure debarring Japanese children from the state schools, and designating the Japs as "undesirable persons." Nevada also seems to be looking for trouble in the same direction as California is finding it. As the federal government has no authority over the acts of the states, it is quite possible that the two western states may make trouble for the country.

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The Committee in charge of the 1912 Centenary exposition in Winnipeg has decided to ask the Dominion government to set aside 250,000 acres of land fit for settlement in the prairie provinces, for the purpose of financing the exhibition, also that each farmer be invited to contribute annually during 1909-10-11, five bushels of wheat raised by himself and carefully selected, and that as an inducement, substantial cash prizes ranging from one thousand dollars down, be offered for the best average samples, according to Government inspection for the whole period. Unless the government can be induced to aid the scheme in a substantial way, plans for the exposition will have to be abandoned.

Live Discussion of Weeds

At the Brandon winter fair, March 9, 10, 11 and 12, Mr. T. N. Willing, chief weed inspector for Saskatchewan, will give an address on common weeds and the methods of getting rid of them, illustrated by lantern slides. This is a new lecture prepared by Mr. Willing the slides being loaned by the seed division of Ottawa. From present indications, one of the best discussions on the eradication of weeds ever presented to a western audience will be one of the drawing cards to the winter fair.

Saskatchewan Crop Report

The annual report from the department of agriculture giving the acreage and yields of various crops has just been issued from Regina.

Compared with the season of 1907, the returns of last year are almost twice as large; and this increase applies to both acreage and yield. It has been found however, that the average yield per acre of each crop was small, and somewhat less than in 1907, although barley shows a slightly better average than in that year. It is plain, however, that the yields of the last two years are much below the possibilities of the province and unless it can be demonstrated that former season were more favorable for crop growth than was the past summer, it may be assumed that methods of cultivation, particularly those in vogue in some of the newer districts, should be held responsible to a certain extent for the failure to reach the old-time high average yield.

The total acreage sown to wheat in 1908 was 3,703,563 which gave a total yield of 50,654,629 bushels, and average of 13.68 bushels per acre. The acreage of 1907 was 2,047,724, the yield 27,691,601, an average of 13.52. The crop from 25,135 acres of wheat was not threshed, and as these figures are included in the acreage from which the 1908 crop was produced, the average yield per acre was thereby somewhat lessened.

The acreage sown to oats in 1908 was 1,772,926 acres, total yield 48,379,838, and average of 27.29 bushels per acre. The acreage sown in 1907 was 801,810, the yield, 23,324,903, an average of 29.09 bushels per acre. It was ascertained that the crop from 124,763 acres of oats was not threshed; but as this grain was doubtless intended for feeding in the sheaf, it is assumed that the yield of grain from that portion of the crop would be equal to the average of the rest of the crop, and consequently the average yield per acre is not thereby lessened.

There were 229,574 acres sown to barley in 1908, which gave a total yield of 3,965,724 and an average of 17.28 per acre. Of the barley crop, 2,600 acres were reported as unthreshed, which will increase the total yield for this grain also to some extent. The acreage in 1907 was 79,339, the total yield 1,350,265 bushels an average of 17.02 bushels per acre.

The flax crop of 1908 totalled 264,728 acres, gave a yield of 2,589,352 bushels, an average of 9.78 bushels per acre. In 1905 there were 128,528 acres sown to this crop, which yielded 1,364,716 bushels, an average of 10.62 per acre. It is estimated that 3,674 acres of flax remained unthreshed at the time the report was compiled, so that the total yield of this grain too will be somewhat greater than indicated.

For the first time in her history the wheat and the oat crops of Saskatchewan exceed those of Manitoba. Bulletin No. 78 issued by Manitoba Department of Agriculture places Manitoba's wheat crop of last year at 49,252,539 bushels, or about one and a half million bushels less than the crop grown in Saskatchewan. The average yield, however, was higher in Manitoba than in Saskatchewan by 3.6 bushels per acre. Manitoba's oat crop was 44,686,043 bushels produced from 1,216,632 acres, or an average yield of 36.8 bushels per acre. Saskatchewan produced 48,379,838 bushels of oats which averaged 27.29 bushels per acre.

LIVE STOCK

During the year the department has compiled more complete statistics of live stock of the province than has been attempted before, and the results here given

indicate the number of each kind of live stock in comparison with the record of the censuses of 1901 and 1906.

	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Swine.	Poultry.
1901	83,461	217,053	73,097	27,755	No record
1906	240,566	472,854	121,290	123,916	No record
1908	343,863	745,037	144,370	426,579	3,411,052

Mr. Moffat to Mr. Millar

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

The idea of taking away from the farmer the privilege he now enjoys of loading his grain over the loading platform seems to worry Mr. Millar, and in place of giving the Grain Growers' Association any credit for the good work they have done, he seemingly would like to tear it all down.

First, he refers to a circumstance that happened at Indian Head in which one farmer had to pay one-half a cent more than he would have had to pay if the elevators were allowed to make such charges as they saw fit. What can be proved by taking one single point out of hundreds? As a matter of fact we have about sixty farmers' elevators throughout the west, and the legislation passed last session will prevent the all powerful monopoly making certain charges at these points, until the farmers' elevator is put out of business; and then go back to the old game just as they have done in the past, to the farmers' sorrow at many points.

Surely our friend will not attempt to say that the above facts are not correct. If he does, we can get reliable farmers by the score to offer sworn testimony in proof of our contention. Our friend says a farmer should be able in one winter's study to learn how to ship his grain; that the intelligence of the farmer should be much higher than it is, and that the farmer must be equipped before he can protect himself, and that no change in system will give him relief.

Apparently, Mr. Millar, they look like a hard bunch to deal with. You are right, Mr. Millar, and I am with you. You admit the evil did exist and still does exist, but how are we to remedy this evil. Will if you will give us the assistance you are giving the other fellows and jump right in and help us, if we all stand together, we must win. There is only one way we can be beaten and that is by dissension among the farmers. Now we have got this combination wondering as they never did before, and you had better assist us to keep them doing so.

Your idea that one-half of the 500 shipping points may be getting fair treatment is no doubt an honest opinion, but it is evident that you are not familiar with conditions at those points, or you would think otherwise. If you believe I am wrong in this, I would suggest that the "Grain Growers' Guide" ask the farmers at all shipping points to report on the question and you will find that such is far from being the case. As to the good results of our near-approaching railway systems; so far, it is a dismal prospect. It is certain the millenium is not in sight yet. For instance, the British North American Elevator Company, and the Port Arthur Terminal Elevator Company control nearly all the Canadian Northern system, and we are told it is the same company divided into two names in order to evade the provisions of the act dealing with warehousing of grain. And we are told that the same company is likely to get the Grand Trunk Pacific terminals as well. You must first break the combination that exists between line elevators, terminal elevators, the large milling firms and the railroads. Their interests are all identical and in common with each other through the stocks they hold, which makes them co-partners.

In regard to the examination of the government elevator craft, I must say that if Mr. Millar has not examined it any better than he has examined the old system he is not in a position to criticize it. That the three provinces should agree unanimously on the new system, and that the inter-provincial council should approve of the action, scarcely suggests that they are all mistaken. If so, it is a mystery to me.

In so far as his kind action to charity is concerned, if he did not know, he should know, that the Old Country prices stand for nothing this year, and if he did get export figures based on Old Country prices, he then did not get the value of the grain by 5 to 10 cents. For reference, take the *Corn Trade News* and the *Old Country Miller*, so ably set forth by the "Grain Growers' Guide," which clearly shows up what actually did take place:—August 25th, Australian wheat, \$1.15; Manitoba wheat \$1.24 2-5; November 3rd, Australian wheat, \$1.20; Manitoba wheat \$1.16 2-5; Australian wheat made 5 cents and Manitoba lost 8 cents.

The above condition was brought about by manipulation, and as a result, we have been taking less than the value of our grain. So it is clear that if Mr. Millar did get all that was in his grain, based on export price, he did not get the intrinsic value of his grain. So that there is nothing in his challenge; but I mean to show that we are not getting the value of our grain. As an illustration, on November 10th 1908, No. 2 Northern was worth, by Winnipeg quotations, \$1.00, Lyleton freight rates and commission amounting to 10 cents, making track wheat at Lyleton on the above date worth 90 cents. On the same date 2 Northern sold at Hansboro, N. D., in bonded elevator, street price 85 cents. Same wheat which graded 2 Northern in bonded elevator, North Dakota

FIELD NOTES

Events of the Week

CANADIAN

The Manitoba Legislative opened with the usual pomp and ceremony on February 4th.

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Winnipeg's population is estimated at 150,000 in the new directory of the city just issued.

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Winnipeg is considering the remodelling of her sewage system: The project outlined, if carried through, will cost in the neighborhood of seven million dollars.

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A delegation waited on the British Columbia Government last week, presenting a petition signed by 35,000 electors asking for a local option law. The Government promised consideration.

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The Manitoba Agricultural College requires a lecturer in agriculture, who can speak French. A representative of the board of agriculture has been for some time in the east in search of a lecturer to fill the position.

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The Laird-Scott, criminal libel case was up for hearing last week at Regina. No decision was rendered, the jury disagreeing. Subsequently, however, the case has been settled and taken from the courts.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN

President Roosevelt, it is said, has been offered a 30 weeks' engagement, at \$10,000 per week, \$300,000 in all, to head a Wild West show on his retirement from the White House.

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Seven hundred negroes were arrested in one bunch in Pittsburg, last week. There is likely to be trouble with the blacks in that city. The police force has been increased and the negroes are arming themselves.

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Wars and rumors of wars in different quarters of the world continue to agitate the nations. The situation in the Balkans is again rather alarming, and those in touch with conditions there believe the moment is fraught with grave threatenings to the peace of Europe. On this continent, Guatemala and Honduras are reported on the verge of hostilities.

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A steamer leaves New York this week carrying 8,000 dead Chinamen, gathered from all the Chinese graveyards east of the Mississippi. No Chinaman's bones can rest securely anywhere in the world but at home, so periodically, a Chinese society, supported by small weekly contributions, makes up a shipment of dead Chinaman, taking the bodies back to the locality the man originally came from. This is one of the shipments.

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EDITOR FARMER'S A

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