

GREATER ONTARIO

cultivation. The farms abound in clover, timothy and alsike. There are root crops galore. Cereals are coming on first-rate. Just a month ago, owing to the abnormal winter season, which also left a marked effect upon the more southerly climates, there was comparatively little growth, but in that period red clover had grown to an average height of three feet six, and just heading out so thick that men could walk through it only with extreme difficulty. Timothy was over four feet high. Roads that were ploughed over and repaired last year are now literally covered with high grass, and give the appearance of having been neglected for many years.

The "greater production" cry has not gone unheeded in this land. No plots lie idle. In the towns the vacant lots and kitchen gardens offer to the visitor unparalleled examples of much growth. It is exceedingly hard to be conservative when such fertility and productivity is evidenced. All crops are on the heavy side, and, providing the sun is permitted to shine with more regularity and consistency, bumper harvests will be gathered by the farmers.

The market gardens here would strike envy in the hearts of the vacant lot cultivators of the cities. Potato patches exhibited plants that stood over two feet high, bushy and blossoming out. Beans had bloomed, and root crops, such as carrots, beets and parsnips, getting ready to be thinned out. Such growth has not been witnessed in Southern Ontario to date. As to the expected yield, it is above anything that has yet been anticipated by these northern gardeners.

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Everywhere, between New Liskeard and Cochrane, and along the Transcontinental Railway where clearings have been made, the same magnificent growth is to be seen. Travellers and those interested in agricultural development do not have to go to the Government Demonstration Farm at Monteith to see what can be grown. The settlers themselves can give a more accurate idea of what can be produced up here under ordinary farming conditions. "We can beat the Demonstration Farm to a frazzle," declared W. H. Hartford, of Shillington, but originally from Kent county. "We can sow what we like, except corn yet awhile, and it will give us exceptional returns. What we need is more roads that will help us hasten our crops to the railheads, and we will surprise those who are even acquainted with the north. If a settler has a kick, it is not about the country; we cannot say anything too good of it, but we need the roads and more means of transportation." This will come in due course. These are war times. But of the crops, stories of hay crops yielding three tons to the acre; peas over thirty-five bushels to the acre; oats over fifty bushels to the acre;