

considered by the careful farmer when he is determining the quantity of seed he will sow to the acre. In short, land should be sown according to its known capacity to carry a large or small crop. Experience has demonstrated that in Saskatchewan the quantity of wheat to be sown per acre should vary from three pecks to two bushels, of oats from six pecks to three bushels, and of flax around two pecks.

Lessons of the 1910 Crop.

In Saskatchewan the season just closed has given ample and profitable opportunities to study the system of dry farming practised here as against the methods of newer settlers who have brought their old-time practices with them; and who invariably let go old methods with a great deal of natural reluctance. While the eastern half of Saskatchewan, being that portion east of the third meridian, certainly had slightly more precipitation than the western half this season (15 and 11 inches respectively), that fact in itself does not account for the marked difference in the crops in these respective areas. A great portion of eastern Saskatchewan has been settled for from ten to twenty-five years, and farmers located therein are familiar with the best methods of tillage necessary to secure the best results under semi-arid conditions. In the western and newer portion, however, large tracts of land have recently been taken up by settlers unfamiliar with such conditions, or possibly insufficiently equipped, with the result that such have experienced some loss and disappointment during the summer of 1910, and yet ample rain fell practically throughout the whole province to give profitable and satisfactory results, had the principles underlying dry farming been understood and carried into effect. Saskatchewan, however, as a whole has a magnificent crop, even with the dry season it has just passed through. Where approved methods of tillage have been practised the results have been most gratifying—the yield in many localities running from twenty-five to forty bushels of wheat to the acre, while the provincial average on acreage sown will not exceed approximately fifteen bushels. Had the principles of scientific farming been observed throughout the whole province, it is believed that the total yield of wheat for this season, instead of being approximately seventy millions, would have bordered around the one hundred million mark. But the newer settlers are not discouraged by any means, as they see what has been accomplished by the occasional experienced settler, one or more of whom is to be found in almost every new locality. With such innumerable illustrations to be found on all sides in Saskatchewan during 1910 of the imperative necessity of employing dry farming methods, if best and most satisfactory results are to be obtained, it is confidently expected that the cause of scientific soil culture will be given such as impetus that it will be only a matter of a few years until practically all will accept its teachings.