

The Sugar Beet World

Devoted to Sugar Beet Culture in Canada

Estimate of the American Sugar Beet Crop and Refined Sugar Yield

According to data received from fifty-seven sugar factories in twelve states, the total acreage of sugar beets in good condition is about 306,000 acres, and the probable beet crop will reach about 2,600,000 long tons. Judging from the recent analyses and taking into account the present weather conditions, the yield in sugar for the campaign 1903-4 will be about 200,000 tons of refined sugar. The beets are especially rich in sugar in California, Utah, Colorado and Idaho. The Michigan beet fields show a much better stand than during the previous year. Besides the factory staffs are now better trained and make few mistakes, and the farmers have benefited by the experience of the last years, and in general have taken better care of their crops.

The Beet Sugar Gazette.

In the Northwest.

On my present trip through the Canadian Northwest I took the opportunity to pay—by way of Lethbridge—a visit to the new and first beet root sugar factory in the Northwest at Raymond, Alberta. Raymond is a thriving little town of about 2,000 population, all of which, except perhaps, 30 or 40 are Mormons, whom Mr. Knight induced to come over from Utah.

Through the kindness of the manager, Mr. Ellison and the constructor, Mr. Brodrick, of Dyer & Co., Cleveland, I was shown over the whole plant, which is now getting its finishing touches. The factory is built in every way in a first rate style, the newest invention and the best material only being used. Its capacity is now about 400 tons beets per day, but there is ample room left to increase it, when necessary, to 750 tons daily. I was told that the campaign may open about middle of October.

Now to the roots, to which I paid special attention, when driving through the big fields. It must be said, and the management of the factory readily admits it, that this first season will not come up to earlier expectations. Many of the fields were sown on lands which last year had wheat and oats. After the crop these fields were not carefully enough plowed under, and thus it happens that we see today "Volunteer" crops of wheat and oats, which have perfectly kept down the beet-roots, so that in these cases we can only expect wheat and oats but no beetroot-crops. Instead of 3,000 acres, thus only about 1,600 acres of beets will this year be available for manufacturing purposes. This is, of course, a drawback, but due care will be taken that it will not happen again next year. I took many samples of beetroots from the fields personally. They all look healthy and well developed, although in size they leave much to be wished for.

As everywhere, Raymond has her troubles about farm labor, as well; beets are no grain crop; they require working nearly every day from the beginning of sowing and scarcity of labor can in such cases only do harm.

Mr. Ellison told me that he tried everything and also took, or rather tried to take, refuge with the Indians; with poor results, for our braves are too proud (I think too lazy) to be employed as common laborers and they refused point blank, to do the work under any circumstances, although good wages were offered. Mr. Ellison is now intending to write to the Department of Indian Affairs and ask them to force those red obstinates to work on the beet-fields. I frankly told him that no result will come from such policy and that the

Government will most likely never agree to using force against the Indians in a case like this. So the labor question must be solved in another way and I hope it may soon be done.

Taking everything as a whole, I readily admit that the Raymond factory has every chance of *good success* in the near future; the buildings and machinery are splendid and all these Mormons are very well adapted for the cultivation of beet-roots, which they already know from their Home State, Utah. The present difficulties will, I believe, soon be overcome by the energy of the proprietor and his well trained staff.

R. BACH,
451 D'Augustine St.
Montreal.

Beet Toppers

Many have been the attempts to invent a successful beet topper, but the bulk of them have failed. Recently however, two new harvesters have appeared that have in them the elements of success. Mr. F. L. Wilson, of Vassar, Mich., has devised a machine that is likely to prove successful. It was submitted to a thorough test, which is described as follows: "The topping attachment works automatically, gauging itself as the ground is covered and each individual beet is reached. The irregularity with which the beet is prone to lift itself above ground or otherwise in growth is a serious obstacle of course to perfect topping; some of the beets being sliced by the topper exactly right, while in other instances it perhaps cuts too deep. It can be said for it though that all marketable beets were topped and where one was left unstalked it was invariably a stunted beet too much underrized to be of market value. The beet culturist who saw the exhibition remarked that though the topper did cut too deep at times in certain isolated instances, there could not possibly be more waste than that sustained by a field of careless hands employed to top them, while what is lost in beets is more than made up in the saving in the price of harvesting to say nothing of the time saved."

Instruction in Harvesting

The Ontario Sugar Co., Berlin Ont., is evidently doing its part towards aiding the farmer to make the most out of his beet crop. Mr. A. E. Shuttleworth, agricultural superintendent, arranged a series of practical demonstrations during the latter half of September, at different farms where instruction was given in harvesting the beet crop. In the circular announcing these demonstrations, Prof. Shuttleworth refutes the erroneous statement that beet sugar is an inferior sugar as follows:

"Redpath's granulated sugar is made from the raw sugar of sugar beets grown in Germany or Austria, which is imported into and refined in Canada. It is also beet sugar. How ridiculous that a name should change the properties of a chemical substance. 75 per cent. of the sugar consumed in Canada is beet sugar, called cane sugar, a commercial name used because the substance was first produced from cane, and still retained by refiners whose raw material is largely or wholly derived from the beet. Redpath's granulated is an example."

Mr. Shuttleworth further says: "I have had tests made this summer with canned and preserved fruits, using only Berlin beet sugar, and may say that the fruits have kept perfectly."

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AUCTION SALE OF TIMBER BERTHS

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to authority of Orders in Council, the Red and White Pine Timbers in the following townships, berths and areas, namely:—

In the District of Missisquoi—The Townships of HUTTON, CHELSEA, PARKIN, AYLESBURY, MACKENZIE, MCCARTHY, MERRICK, MULOCK (part of), FRENCH (part of), STEWART, LOCKHART (part of), GARDNER (part of), OSBORNE (part of), HAMMILL and PHILIPS (part of).

In the District of Algoma—Berths Nos. 190 and 201, the Township of STRATHMORE and Roberts and Block "W" near Onaping Lake.

In the Rainy River District—Berths (19, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25), and the following Berths with the right to cut and remove the pine, spruce, tamarac, cedar and poplar: 194, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, and 226, will be offered for sale by Public Auction at the Parliament Buildings, in the City of Toronto, on **Wednesday, the ninth day of December, 1903**, at the hour of one o'clock in the afternoon.

Sheets containing terms and conditions of Sale and information as to Area and Lots and Concessions comprised in each Berth will be furnished on application, or on receipt of letter, to the Department of Crown Lands, Toronto, or the Crown Timber Agencies at OTTAWA, Sault Ste. Marie, Port Arthur, RAT PORTAGE and FORT FRANK.

Commissioner of Crown Lands, DEPARTMENT OF CROWN LANDS, TORONTO, July 22, 1903.

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