

## Condition of Crops.

Crop bulletin No 34, of the Manitoba department of agriculture and immigration has been issued. It is summarized from the returns received from the regular correspondents of the department under date of July 1. The subjoined statement gives comparisons with 1891 of a number of items dealt with in the report:—

	1891	1892
Rainfall recorded in June	5.57 inches	2.48 inches.
Average cash price of improved land....	\$10.85	\$11.25
Average cash price of unimproved land....	9.96	8.50
Percentage of land occupied	92.7	66.1
Percentage of land fit for cultivation.....	74.8	76.2
Number of farmers in the province.....	18,937	20,517
Average acreage put under crop by each.....	78.5	78.5

The bulletin says the first part of June was cool and the growth was not as rapid as could be desired, but the latter part was more favorable. In some parts of the province rain is badly needed, but in other districts there has been abundance. There has been nothing like a general down-pour of rain throughout the province during the month, and there is no doubt that such would materially aid the growing crops. The rainfall during the month of June this year was very slight compared with that of 1891. The following is a record of the total rainfall, in inches, at some of the principal stations in the province for the month of June: Pombing 3.10, Evansdale 3.32, Grotna 1.81, Oak Bank 1.74, Morden 1.26, Greenwood 1.29, Hillview 1.93, Oak River 2.11, Hartney 1.63, DeClare 2.21, Clarkleigh 2.75, Arden Station 2.11, Shoal Lake 2.05, Pilot Mound 4.15, Troherne 3.33, Clandeboyne 1.91, Winnipeg 1.47, Carmian 2.85, Cartwright 3.18, Fairburn 3.43, Rapid City 1.44, Norquay 4.92, Belmont 2.82. The average rainfall in the province at twenty-three stations, during June, was 2.48 inches.

### WHEAT.

The bulletin says:—"This crop promises to be of the best. The cold weather during part of June has thrown it from a week to ten days behind last year, but it is now doing well. Where poor seed was used it is not as good as it ought to be, the growth being thin. When we say poor seed we mean seed that was threshed from the stacks this spring or late last fall and became heated in the bins, but where good seed was sown it is fully up to the average. In some places there was a good deal of wind which has caused it to be thin in places. As we stated in our bulletin last month, where the seed was drilled in it is looking much better than where it has been sown broadcast, but in all cases it is reported to have a good color and making rapid advancement."

### OATS.

Correspondents are more concurrent in opinion as to this crop than is the case with regard to wheat, and their report show that it will be quite as good as previous years. Of course there are places from which poor and thin fields are reported, but in general it is thick on the ground, healthy and of a good color, but would seem to be about ten days late. The area this year exceeds other years by about thirty thousand acres. In some places they were sown on stubble without proper cultivation and do not look so well as where they are properly cultivated.

### BARLEY.

"As will be seen from our bulletin of last month the acreage under this crop is considerably ahead of last year, and when our bulletin was issued there remained a good deal yet to be sown. All correspondents agree that the prospects for a good crop are of the brightest, and several correspondents say it promises to be the best they have seen since they came to the province, but that the two rowed barley looks best."

Peas and flax—All reports in regard to peas and flax show that they are doing well. There will probably be a good crop.

Potatoes and roots—Are this year very late. Early potatoes were damaged by the June frosts slightly and the turnip fly and grub have done the crop much damage. They are now doing well, however, and I promise a good crop.

Hay—Reports from all parts of the province are very favorable and show that the crop will be abundant and of excellent quality.

### STOCK AND DAIRING.

Live stock—Is in excellent condition on account of the abundance of good grasses. The stock looks better than it ever did.

Dairying—This industry is not receiving the attention it deserves, but is steadily growing. In 1891 there were 75,933 milch cows and this year the number has increased to 79,587.

Stallions—The province is well supplied and almost every township has one or more stallions owned in it. The total number is 706.

Brood mares—Are rapidly increasing. This year shows 31,411, being an increase of 1,690 over last year.

### GENERAL FARMING.

A statement gives the number of farmers in the province, together with the average quantity of land put under cultivation by each. The number of farmers is shown to be 20,517, being an increase over that of last year by 1,580. The average under crop by each is shown to be the same as last year. It is pleasant, says the bulletin, to know that each year shows an increase in the number of farmers in the province and consequently each year we are becoming more prosperous. As so many new settlers have arrived in the province this year, it is expected that next year we will be able to show a great increase in the number of farmers over this year.

A table shows the average prices of lands, improved and unimproved, through the province as well as the percentage of the whole area fit for cultivation and taken up by settlers. In the various district lands are nearly the same value, the highest being \$12.60 in the southwestern, and the lowest \$10.45 in the north central. The highest individual price is reported from the north central district, being \$30 for improved and \$29 for unimproved land. The average for the province is \$11.24, showing an increase over last year when it was reported at \$10.85. In unimproved lands also there is an increase in value, the rates for 1891 and the present year being \$6.96 and \$7.28 respectively. A percentage equal to 66 per cent. of the whole area is shown to be taken up by settlers. This is an increase of 3.3 per cent. over last year when it was given at 62.7 per cent. The area fit for cultivation is given at 75 per cent. of the whole.

## Crops in Europe.

A considerable quantity of rain has fallen this week, and there can be no doubt that it has done much good. Most of the reports received within the past few days state that the cool weather of the previous week has done little or no harm to the grain crops, but serious injury probably to potatoes. The opinion with regard to the promise of the wheat crop varies considerably; in several districts it is described as thin on the ground and short in the ear, and in others that the prospects are for a good crop with a favorable July. In nearly all cases, however, it is agreed that the acreage is less than last year; in some cases as much as 25 per cent less; but the more common estimate is that the area is 10 per cent less, which on last year's area in Great Britain, viz., 2,307,000 acres represents 230,000 acres, or equal to a deficiency in the yield of nearly 1,000,000 qrs. In France the wheat crop is described as satisfactory in many places, but on the whole to be likely to yield below an average. Several estimates have already been made, and they vary from 31,000,000 to 36,000,000 qrs, against a crop last year of 26,000,000 qrs, according to commercial estimates, but 23,000,000 qrs, according to the preliminary official returns. Germany looks

for a fair average crop, as do also Spain and Italy; while in Hungary an average yield is anticipated, although rust is complained of in many districts; according to the last official estimate 61 1/4 per cent of the area promises an average of 30.17 per cent above an average, and only 5.39 per cent below. A crop of about 18,000,000 qrs is therefore expected, against 16,000,000 qrs last year. The Russian reports continue to be contradictory, the official reports being generally more favorable than the commercial advices. The crop, however, may be still below an average and yet justify the recent raising of the decree prohibiting exports. The rye crop evidently promises less favorably than the wheat crop—Berbholm, June 24.

## The Columbia Exhibits.

Prof. Saunders, executive commissioner of the World's Columbia exhibition for Canada, was in Winnipeg last week making arrangements for the creditable representation of the province of Manitoba at Chicago next year. Having this work entirely under his charge, he is visiting the provinces for the purpose of interviewing the various governments and endeavoring to excite as warm an interest as possible in the enterprise, so as to secure a complete series of exhibits from every province, especially such as will show the resources, agricultural, mineral and timber in every department in which the province desires to exhibit. He calls attention to the fact that the Dominion Government offers to pay transportation charges on all exhibits to Chicago and return; also to provide the necessary caretakers to look after the exhibits and keep them in presentable shape throughout the six months of the exhibition. The co-operation of the provinces is asked for several reasons. It is believed that they will be benefitted by taking up the work energetically, also that they can do better work in many departments than could possibly be done by the Dominion, as their local organizations enable them to reach the farmers and others who will provide the materials. Manitoba will be invited, the commissioner says, to take part in as many branches of the exhibition as she cares to enter; and every facility will be afforded, as far as the space at hand will admit of, which will enable the province to carry out her ideas in regard to several departments of work. About a hundred thousand square feet of space altogether has been secured. Of this 10,000 feet will be allotted for the agricultural buildings; 10,000 feet for that of mineral products; 4,000 feet for the forestry building, in which the various timbers will be exhibited; 20,000 feet for the building for manufactures; and smaller areas in a number of other buildings will be allotted for various other purposes.

The eastern provinces, Professor Saunders says, are taking active steps now to bring together representative exhibits in all the departments in which they are severally interested, and his object in visiting the west is to do the same for the western provinces as is being done for the eastern ones, namely, to make provision for their exhibits in a manner satisfactory to the provinces themselves and to the whole country. It is proposed to erect a Canadian building as a place of rendezvous for the Canadian people, at a cost of \$20,000 and the provinces are asked to assist in this work on the basis of the Dominion Government paying one-half the cost, and the provinces dividing the other half amongst them. Ontario is contributing \$3,000, Quebec \$2,000, Nova Scotia \$1,000; and proportionate amounts are expected from Manitoba and the other western provinces. These contributing provinces will be entitled to expect office accommodation for their own representatives, and people from Canada everywhere will be welcome to the public use of the building. There will be a large reception room provided with a postoffice, where Canadian papers will be on file. The building will be so constructed outside as to afford ample verandah accommodation; hence, when the reception