

CROP REPORT OF ONTARIO

From the Official Returns to the Bureau of Industries.

Summary From Reports of Over 2,000 Correspondents Indicates Prosperity For Farmers of the Province—The Grains Crop Better Than at First Anticipated—Average of 25 Bushels For Acre of Fall Wheat.

Toronto, Aug. 19.—The following report concerning the crops of the Province has been issued by the Ontario Department of Agriculture, and deals with conditions as described by regular correspondents of the Bureau of Industries under date of the 1st of August. It is based on the returns of over 2,000 correspondents:

Fall Wheat. Much of the fall wheat just harvested was sown a week or two later than usual, owing to the rainy weather prevailing in the early part of last fall, but this does not seem to have had any bad effect upon the general character of the crop.

There was but little injury by winter-killing, and very little was plowed up in the spring. April was not favorable to the growth of the young wheat, but during the summer the crop picked up to such an extent that it turned out to be one of the best crops yet recorded in the Province, both as to yield and quality. While some returns fall short of an average, several instances are given where the crop range from 40 to 50 bushels per acre, and samples are reported going fully 63 bushels to the bushel. Much of the straw is shorter than usual, but bright. Owing to heavy rains in July some of the wheat lodged and sprouted, but not in sufficient proportion to be a serious drawback. The Hessian fly was reported in several counties, but only to a slight extent compared with recent years. The injury from other insects, and from rust and smut, has been but trifling, and this may also be said of the grain crops.

A few complaints have been made of depredations of sparrows in wheat and other cereals. The cutting of fall wheat ranged from the 10th to the 30th of July, according to locality, although at the later date the greater part of the crop was in the barn.

Spring Wheat. The harvesting of all spring grains this year is about a week or so later than usual, and the cutting of spring wheat was expected during the first and second weeks of August. Like fall wheat, the crop suffered from drouth in the spring, but pulled up with the more favorable weather prevailing later. While rather thin on the ground in places, the heads are well filled, the grain is plump, and the average yield will be a fairly large one. There was but slight injury from insect or other pests.

Barley. A large acreage and a big yield fairly describes this crop. Cutting began about the 20th of July, and was expected to run a week into August. While some barley had lodged and was discolored by rain, the bulk of the crop is of the choicest quality, both in color and weight, while the average yield is one of the most generous yet reported. Most of the barley grown in Ontario is now fed to live stock on the farm, being substituted largely for peas since the latter crop has been suffering from the weevil. There was but little injury to the crop from any other source but rain.

Oats. While a few correspondents writing on the 1st of August reported the cutting of oats, most of the crop had yet to ripen, and harvesting was likely to continue for a couple of weeks yet. The yield will be large, and the quality of the grain good. As in the case of fall wheat and barley, some individual yields will be immense. The straw is comparatively short, but otherwise of fair quality, but there has been considerable lodging owing to heavy rains during the past week or two. Rust and smut are complained of in a few localities, but only to a slight extent even there.

Peas. Comparatively little rye is now raised for the grain, much of that which is sown being either cut green or plowed under. The crop has been a most uneven one this season, both as to yield and quality. The season of harvesting rye ranged from the middle to the end of July. It is difficult to sum up the exact situation regarding peas, owing to the fact that for the past two or three years the flat or grass pea has been largely substituted for the common round field pea on account of the depredations of the pea weevil or "bug," and that this year a number of farmers have returned to the latter variety. While complaints are yet too frequent concerning the presence of the weevil, it would seem as if peas have been comparatively successful where grown, some correspondents, indeed, being quite enthusiastic over the prospects of the crop. There has also been a great growth of straw owing to frequent rains, but some mildew is reported. Some early fancy peas have been already cut, but ordinary field peas were not expected to be harvested for a week or two. While the acreage of peas is still small compared with that of a few years ago, the general outlook for the crop is more encouraging than for the past two years.

Beans. The growing of field beans is confined mainly to Kent and adjacent counties in the Lake Erie district. There has been a great growth of stalk, the plants have blossomed profusely, and the prospects at present are most favorable for a more than average yield when the crop is gathered in the first or second week of September. In many instances beans were planted late, but aside from the effects of heavy rains in

low places there has been but little complaint.

Hay and Clover. April was too cold and dry for clover, and this, together with the drouth which prevailed in May, gave the crop a very poor start. Rains in the latter part of June and in the early portion of July, however, brought most meadows along in remarkably good form, with the result that the yield of hay will be about an average, although individual returns will range from 1 to 3 tons per acre. Timothy has done much better than clover this year, and new meadows, as a rule, have been much ahead of old fields. The weather was very "catchy" during haying, and a part of the crop was caught by rain; nevertheless there has been a much larger proportion of first-class hay saved than was the case last season. Some of the hay had to be cut late, on account of the scarcity of farm labor and the coming in of the fall wheat harvest, although the use of hay-loaders and other special appliances helped many farmers out. A few correspondents speak of lucerne as increasing in favor. Clover cutting began about the 4th of June, and timothy was a week or two later.

Corn. This appears to be a very uneven crop this year. It was so dry at the time of planting that much of the seed failed to germinate, which made considerable replanting necessary. A number of correspondents also complain of the poor quality of the seed apart from weather conditions. Crows and blackbirds were unusually troublesome when the plants had just sprouted, and cold, wet weather later on told against the growth of the crop. Notwithstanding all these drawbacks, many correspondents are of opinion that with favorable weather during the remainder of the season a fair yield will be recorded. Fodder crops were considered to be in a relatively better condition than those varieties raised for grain.

Tobacco. Most of the tobacco raised in the Province is grown in the counties of Essex and Kent in the west, and in Prescott and Russell in the east. Correspondents do not report very fully concerning this crop, but western returns were to the effect that it was rather backward owing to the late planting and cold, wet weather, although otherwise looking well. The reports from eastern Ontario were rather more favorable as to general conditions, but it was stated that some replanting had to be done on account of drouth. The interest in tobacco growing appears to be less than during the past two or three years.

Potatoes. As correspondents wrote on the 1st of August potatoes promised to be one of the best yields for years, more or less favorable accounts coming from nearly every county in the Province. The only fear expressed was that should the rainy weather continue, there would be danger of a loss from rot. At the time of writing, however, only a few cases of rot were reported, and these appeared to be of a local character. A number of the returns spoke of bugs as being very plentiful, doubtless owing to the frequent rains washing off the applications of Paris green.

Roots. Reports concerning mangels vary very much, for while some of the returns speak of the crop as being in good condition, a large number describe it as thin and patchy in places, owing to the dry weather which prevailed at seeding interfering with germination. In various parts of the Province some of the mangels had to be plowed up. Turnips have done much better, and promise to be a large crop. Hardly any mention was made of carrots, and reference to sugar beets were to the effect that the crop was rather backward, and hardly up to the average for the time of year. However, all classes of roots have still a considerable period before them in which to make further growth.

Fruit. Taking the western half of the Province as a whole, apples are not up to the average, either in yield or quality, but most of the reports from counties extending from York to Grenville speak favorably of this fruit in both respects. Some correspondents claim that the greatest injury was from frost during the period of blossom. Winter apples will be relatively scarce, but the earlier sorts, considerable scab has been reported where the trees were not sprayed, but complaints have been less than usual concerning wormy fruit. Blight among apple trees is reported in several districts. While a few correspondents speak well of the prospects for pears, most of the returns do not favor a large, or even an average yield. Plums, however, have had a most favorable season for bearing, and where sprayed have yielded generously, but where neglected much injury was wrought by the curculio causing young fruit to drop from the tree. A few complaints have also been received of plums rotting. In most quarters where grown, peaches are yielding well, more especially the later varieties. Cherries give from a fair to a light yield, and, like plums, have suffered somewhat from black-rot. Grapes will be a medium crop should favorable weather continue until ripening. Strawberries, raspberries, and other small fruits have been more or less abundant.

Pastures and Live Stock. The early part of the season was most unpromising for pastures, being so dry and cold, but frequent rains later on brought meadows into the very best condition, generally speaking. Live stock are in correspondingly good trim, having suffered from little but the horn fly, which, however, appeared later in the season than usual. The flow of milk has been large, and there will be a large supply of dairy products. Farmers supplying these factories appear to be more satisfied with results this year than those in the butter line.

There is every prospect of an abundance of all kinds of fodder for fall and winter keep.

Bees and Honey. The season has been a favorable one for the apiary. Bees swarmed freely, and there has been an abundance of nectar in both field and forest, more especially in the case of white clover, which was more or less in bloom all summer. The yields reported range from 25 to 100 pounds per colony, but the average for the Province will be about 55 pounds, spring count. Little or no disease has been reported among bees, and at last accounts they were said to be in a thrifty condition.

Farm Labor and Wages. Full crops and the migration of farmers' sons to New Ontario and to Manitoba and the Northwest, created a demand for farm laborers in Ontario that could not be met during the rush of summer operations. Several correspondents refer to the influx of British immigrants as having relieved the situation to some extent; but while a number of these, having had no previous experience in agricultural work, were a sore disappointment, many of them have given good satisfaction. Wages during harvesting ranged from \$1.25 to \$2 a day according to locality, the skill of the worker, and the urgency of the demand for help, the average rate being about \$1.50 with board. Monthly wages ran all the way from \$20 to \$40, and in a few cases as high as \$45, the prevailing quotations being from \$25 to \$30, with board.

While many farmers were undoubtedly hard pushed for a while during harvest, the plan of interchanging labor proved to be of great assistance in some cases, and improved machinery is also mentioned as having been of much help in meeting the rush of work. On account of the scarcity and comparatively high price of labor, a number of farmers are considerably behind in their intended building improvements in order from the same cause.

Field Crop Forecast. The following table gives the area and estimated yields of the principal crops in Ontario for the year 1903. The forecast of August 1st is based on returns from 2,000 special correspondents:

	Acres.	Bushels.	per acre
Fall	666,505	16,969,634	25.5
Wheat	252,854	4,862,711	19.2
Spring	709,839	24,208,870	34.1
Barley	2,645,965	110,125,090	41.6
Oats	179,277	2,978,841	16.6
Rye	407,133	9,179,345	22.0
Peas	53,973	984,477	18.2
Beans	2,783,565	5,191,828	1.86

KINGS OF COMMERCE

Meet in Montreal and Discuss Many Topics of Importance.

THE DEFENCE OF THE EMPIRE

Principle of Colonial Contributions Is Endorsed—Resolutions re. the Food Supply of the Empire Adopted—Brilliant Gallery of Delegates From Chambers of Commerce of Empire. Montreal, Aug. 18.—It was a brilliant assembly that confronted Lord Strathcona when he convened the fifth congress of the Chambers of Commerce yesterday. Six hundred princes of trade from every section of the empire were there. It was the most representative gathering of commercial spirits ever witnessed in the Dominion, and a ravishing bit of color was contributed by the gallery of ladies. The United Kingdom, Australia, South Africa, India, the West Indies, New Zealand and Canada were there in the person of her most progressive merchants.

Upon Lord Strathcona's left sat Lord Brassey, president of the congress, the representative of a family whose name has been identified with some of Canada's big enterprises of a half century ago. Adjoining was Lieut.-Gen. F. Winburn Laurie, C.B., M.P., of the London Chamber, a Canadian, who has so long resided in London as to desire to see the colonial Empire ruled by Downing street.

Feast For the Eye. Spreading out from beneath the shield and royal standard, beneath which they stood gathered the delegates, all occupying numbered chairs. Would you have an ocular demonstration of the world wide stretch of the British Empire? Then feast your mind's eye upon the spectacle of Sir Edward Buck, the genius of far-off Cawnpore, rubbing elbows with the venerable Hon. W. Ross of Halifax, Prof. W. R. Lang of London, sandwiched in between delegates from Durban, Kimberley and other South African cities; Willis Raymond of New Zealand seated in the same seat with the commercial bodies from the West Indies; the South Australian visitors crowding into the square devoted to the citizens of the Empire from Alexandria and other sections of the far removed Egypt; or the merchants of Victoria and Vancouver contending for a little more room with the commercial bodies from New South Wales, Queensland and the Barbadoes. Nothing could more strikingly illustrate the world force of the British Empire.

Lord Strathcona. This was the interesting picture that Lord Strathcona viewed as he arose to address the congress. He was greeted with a whirlwind of applause. Lord Strathcona referred to the progress which had made the discussion of Imperial preferential trade, He said the proposal might favorably

some rearrangement of the fiscal policy of the United Kingdom, but he did not think it would necessitate any return to protection or result in the burden on the shoulders of our fellow-citizens of Britain being in any appreciable extent, if at all it would not be protection in the way in which it was usually interpreted, but duties on a limited number of articles from countries outside the Empire.

Lord Brassey. Lord Brassey, who followed, said there was one prime object for them all—that was to strengthen and consolidate the Empire. Lord Brassey is a finished speaker and knows how to secure the best effect. He is tall, grey-haired and of ruddy complexion. With the idea of saving time, the subjects for one to sixteen were referred to a committee, to be acted on to-day, with the hope of eliminating minor resolutions.

Imperial Defence. The discussion which followed was on Imperial defence. Geo. E. Drummond of Montreal moved two resolutions, introduced by the Canadian Manufacturers' Association and the Montreal Board of Trade, favoring colonial contributions to Imperial defence.

After some discussion Col. Denison moved an amendment embodying the principle of the Montreal Board of Trade's resolution and that of the Montreal District Chamber De Commerce, which he said was an emblem of the unity of the two races as follows: "Resolved that this Congress hereby approve the principle that it is the duty of the self-governing colonies to participate in the cost of the defence of the Empire. The colonies thus claim the privilege of being their own initiators; to the nature and mode of help which they may agree to offer in the future to the British Empire."

The resolution was adopted. The resolution touching the importation of coolie labor from India was withdrawn without comment. The motion to urge the Imperial Government to request the French surtax charges to be abolished on shipments passing through French territory was adopted.

The resolution requesting the Imperial Government to grant the most favored nation clause to countries who had extended same to the colonies was passed. Last night a reception was tendered the visitors at the Board of Trade. The city made the occasion a social event, and several thousand persons were present.

Canada's Trade with U. S. It Has Reached the High Water Mark—Imports and Exports. Washington, D. C., Aug. 18.—Trade with Canada in the year just ended reached its high water mark. Both in imports and exports the commerce between the two countries exceeded that in any previous year. Statistics compiled at the Department of Commerce and Labor show that imports from Canada last year amounted to \$54,690,410 and the exports to Canada \$123,472,416. By Canada is meant British Columbia, Quebec, Ontario, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

The imports have before reached so much as \$50,000,000 save in one exceptional year, 1881, when they barely touched that figure. In 1902 they were \$48,076,124. The exports to Canada never reached so much as \$100,000,000 until 1901, when they were \$105,000,000. In 1902 they were \$109,000,000. The Canadian tariff has given to the products and manufactures of the United Kingdom and most of its colonies a reduction of twelve and a half per cent in the tariff rates since April, 1897; twenty-five per cent from August, 1898, to July 1, 1900, and since that date a reduction of thirty-three per cent.

With One Firm 59 Years. Toronto, Aug. 18.—The death occurred yesterday at his home, 270 Ontario street, of Chas. McCurry, in his 87th year. He was for 59 years an employe of Lyman Bros. & Co., wholesale druggists. He was born in Belfast, Ireland, and came to Canada when quite young.

Be at Sutcliffe's Saturday Morning at 8.30

A QUICK CLEARANCE OF SUMMER STOCKS AT ABOUT ONE-THIRD THEIR FORMER PRICE.

We have decided to make some big sacrifices in order to clear all our Ladies' Blouses, Muslins, Men's and Ladies' Underwear, etc. We have had a big muslin season, but we find our shelves contain several ends of muslins, and we have decided to sacrifice them rather than carry any over for another season. NOTE THE PRICE—5c per yd at 8.30 on Saturday Morning.

15c Dress Muslins Saturday Morning 5c. Ladies fine colored Muslin, Cambray, Percale and White Lawn Blouses. The balance of many lines that have been selling at \$1.00, 75c, 50c. For quick clearance Saturday morning, each 29c.

18c Neck Ribbons 10c. Ladies' Fine Sheer White Lawn Blouses, variety of styles, tucked and trimmed with Valenciennes Lace, and insertion; also with pretty embroidery trimmings. Regular prices 1.25 and 1.00. Clearance price 50c.

35c Summer gloves 15c. Ladies', Misses' and Children's sample Summer Gloves, silk and taffeta—also lace mitts, colored and black. Regular Prices 40c, 35c and 25c. Clearance 15c.

\$7.00 Costumes \$2.89. Seven only, Ladies' Muslin Costumes, in fancy and plain; also Linen Voles in grey and linen shades, regular prices \$7.00 and \$6.50 for \$2.89.

Saturday Morning Bargains on Sale at 8.30. SEE EAST WINDOW. J. SUTCLIFFE & SONS. Cash Lindsay One Price.

FARMS FOR SALE. In Brock Township, adjoining village of Cannington, and close to creamery; 150 acres, all plow land. Brick house (cost \$3,000); two good frame barns, one with stone foundation, driving-house, implement house and frame stable; orchard; abundance of water. Price low for quick sale; terms easy.

Town Property for Sale. Near R. C. church; new brick house, corner lot, first-class property; 9 rooms. On Lindsay-st., near Glenelg; solid brick house, 8 rooms, cement cellar.

FARMS WANTED. FARM WANTED.—100 acres; good land and fair buildings; can pay \$500 down. Apply at this office.—32-4.

FARM WANTED TO PURCHASE.—50 to 75 acres five to ten miles from Lindsay; fairly good buildings. Terms must be easy. Apply at this office.—32-4.

WANTED TO BUY.—Seven or eight roomed house, in good condition. Apply to Box 310, Lindsay.—33-3.

TENDERS WANTED.—Sealed tenders for the erection of a Methodist parsonage at Janetville will be received by the undersigned up till 6 o'clock on Monday evening Aug. 31st. Plans and specifications may be seen at the Watchman-Warder office on and after Monday the 24th of August. REV. W. D. HARRISON, Pastor.

HELP WANTED. WANTED.—First-class dress makers wanted at once—highest salaries paid. DUNDAS & FLAVELLE BROS.—34-2.

WANTED.—Dress making apprentices wanted at once. DUNDAS & FLAVELLE BROS.—34-2.

WANTED.—By fifteenth of September girl to do general housework. Apply to Miss Kennedy, or Glenelg and Mill-sts.—34-1. WANTED.—Experienced, competent general. Wages \$15 monthly, small family; references. Apply to MRS. SCOTT, 502 church-st., Toronto.

SPONGE. Marks the dividing line between the animal and vegetable life. What we call are the skeletons of what calls compound infusoria.

SPONGE. When first gathered, rightly, pulpy mass to be put through severe before ready for use. Spoiled in the making.

SPONGE. Must be bought carefully buy carefully that you safely. Our prices are the lowest to be had. See our east window. A. HIGINBOTT. Druggist. Nearly opp. Post Office.

Little Local Lines. The Steamer Manitoba Lindsay at 3 p.m. instead of 4 p.m. Photos copied or on and cheap. Fowler & graphers, Lindsay.—34-2.—\$2 per doz. photoz. Proofs shown, guaranteed. Fowler & Co., Lindsay.

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