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CROP REVIEWS

(Continued from Page 1.)

As prevailed over a large part of the country this year, would have resulted in almost a crop failure, but the restoration to the soil of the fertility of which it is in need to assure a better return for the labor is showing its results in average yields in a year of uncertain climate. High temperature and insufficient rainfall, which from time to time settle over the Trans-Missouri regions and the central part of the Mississippi valley are no longer attended with abandoned acreage. This year is an admirable and effective showing of the better methods used on most of the farms, in the production of a corn crop of average size, and of an oats crop that a few years ago was considered a bumper crop.

Spring Wheat Uncertain.
On the Pacific coast the yields were high, and along the northern states from the coast eastward conditions were favorable. In spring wheat North Dakota developed uncertain prospects from the lack of sufficient rainfall in the spring, and a few days of high temperatures in the month of June, and the damage in the western and central part of that state and in South Dakota contracted the expected yield fully 100,000,000, and the actual output of the spring seeded wheat will fall to that extent under last year with a total indicated by our correspondents of 230,000,000 bushels.

Oats Conditions Unfavorable.
The second of the ripening crops of the country that figure in the domestic use and which is among the three big grain crops is that of oats. Last year this crop reached the unprecedented figure of 1,415,000,000 bushels, exceed-

ing all previous records by 225,000,000 bushels. This year conditions were unfavorable to the fullest possible yield, a cold late spring and early high temperatures in the central states affecting the yield, so that the total crop does not exceed 1,000,000,000 bushels. Only twice before did the crop pass the billion bushels mark, so that the yield is above the average.

This year's corn crop will not be a record one. Our correspondents early in the month, before the burning temperatures swept through the southwest and Ohio valley figured on a repetition of last year's crop, but we can not ignore the heavy damage that has occurred in Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, and portions of Missouri and Illinois since that time, which has cut off at least 300,000,000 bushels from the prospect, and reduced the estimate to 2,800,000,000. As the corn crop on the average does not ripen until late in October an estimate in July is simply based upon continuance of favorable conditions to the end of the season. The conditions are good through northern Indiana, Illinois, practically all of Iowa and northward and eastward from Ohio. The rest of the corn belt has had little or no rain of importance this summer.

The great rival of corn in weight and value is that of hay, and to a large extent it can take the place of corn when there is a shortage of that grain. The hay crop has been above an average—there have been some losses in the yield in the dry area, but in the main the crop is the second largest on record with a total of 66,610,000 tons as against last year's magnificent yield of 72,691,000 tons, and this large crop, with at least one-third of last year's crop still on the farm, will repair all the breaches that will be made by a lessened corn yield. The hay crop this year is valued on the farm at a billion dollars.

The more important of the minor grains—barley is two per cent under last year, the loss being almost entirely in California, where the severe drought of last winter and spring, and the extreme cold weather played havoc with all agricultural products. The crop in the northwest is somewhat below the high yield of last year, but on the whole an average one. With the exception of last year the barley crop on the whole is far above the average, and in the comparisons with years other than the last one, is a bumper crop.

Taking the country over the output of the crops may be summarized by sections:

Eastern states—Good average yields of all grains, no damage to any particular product.

Central west—Average returns only on oats, and corn promise average; wheat exceptionally large; hay fair. Fruits short on account of dry area in the Ohio valley.

North central states—Excellent in all crops, save lighter spring wheat yields on the western border. Corn the most flattering prospect in years; oats promising more than normal yield. Potatoes and other vegetables excellent.

Western states—Drought conditions impaired oats yield and causing considerable damage to corn. Wheat yield above usual, exceptional results, save in the western third of Kansas and Nebraska. Potato crop badly hurt and much under average yield indicated in the big productive region of the Kaw valley.

South Atlantic and Gulf states east of the Mississippi—Excellent crops of all kinds, cotton promise the best in years. Corn somewhat below record yields on account of the early planting, which has been damaged by dry weather, late planting in splendid condition.

Southwest—Very dry for some time; wheat only large crop thus far, oats good in Texas, poor elsewhere, corn suffering over the best part of the region. Cotton needing rain to maintain present condition, but not badly hurt.

Pacific Coast—Poor southward on account of drought and crops largely failure, splendid northward, and average yields of grain, with promise of good fruit yield.

Mountain states—Wheat chief commercial crop and good yields reported. On eastern slope dry farming not as successful as usual on account of light moisture during the winter. Irrigated lands giving large crops.

Northwestern states—Wheat hurt by poor start, but damage checked; oats same; excellent corn and hay crop promising record yields.

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