

To successfully establish business relations, New Zealand exporters must have a representative in Buenos Aires. Such representative, moreover, must speak the language of the country (Spanish), have a thorough knowledge of existing conditions and Customhouse work, and be able to arrange freights from Monte Video. Intending exporters are warned not to ship goods to Argentina on consignment unless they have a responsible representative to attend to their interests.

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### CROPS, PASTURES, AND STOCK.

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THE climatic conditions of the past month have been generally favourable, although there has been in many of the South Island districts an excess of strong drying winds. Grain crops generally made good progress, and harvesting in the North Island is (10th January) well advanced, and in Canterbury has well begun. The season is about a fortnight earlier than last. The crops are very irregular in yield. Estimated yields for the several districts and the Dominion are tabulated on page 56. The condition of the grain will vary greatly, but promises to be on the whole better than last season. There are reports of a large proportion of failures of germination of turnips, but crops in which there has been a good braird are coming on well. Pastures have made a fair recovery, excepting where the destruction by drought was complete, and where the wind has neutralized the effect of the rain. More rain is needed in some districts. The grass-seed crops in Canterbury and Hawke's Bay are extremely light, but on the West Coast, North Island, and in Southland are, with few exceptions, good. Lambs are reported to be still light, as a consequence of the dry spring, and milking-cows in many districts are still yielding below the average supply of milk; but with the improved condition of pastures better returns are expected to be realized shortly. The situation all round is favourable.

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### PERENNIALIZED ITALIAN RYE-GRASS.

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THE reply in the *Journal* (November, p. 450) to an inquirer in regard to this grass has elicited the information that Messrs. Gartons (Limited) have New Zealand agents, Messrs. Wright, Stephenson, and Co., Dunedin. The price this year for seed of this grass in New Zealand was 19s. 6d. per bushel of 20 lb.

It is observed from the reports forwarded from Messrs. Gartons that this grass is an enormous hay-producer, is very rapid in growth, and for dense succulent herbage is unrivalled. It is claimed as marking the advent of a new series of breeds of forage crops that will be offered to the agricultural community by those enterprising seed-breeders, Messrs. Gartons (Limited).