

GRASS FOR ARID LANDS.

Prof. Olin of the Iowa Agricultural College Makes a Discovery of Value to the Western Agriculturist.

[BY DIRECT WIRE TO THE TIMES.]

AMES (Iowa), Aug. 9.—[Exclusive Dispatch.] Millions of acres of semi-desert lands of the western plains of the United States, as well as other millions of the African veldts, the Siberian steppes, the Argentina pampas and the great, unexplored plains of West Australia, will be converted into the best hay and pasture lands in the world, if the new grass scientifically developed by Prof. W. H. Olin, grass expert of the Iowa Agricultural College at this place, will do what he claims for it.

A modification of what is known as the "side oats grama" is the grass for which these claims are advanced. After being developed in connection with Prof. Olin's studies and experiments with the grasses from all the great grassy plains of the world, the new grass has been tried on some of the half-arid plains of this country, and thus far has done all that was expected of it.

Next spring these experiments are to be conducted on a larger scale, and throughout a wider area. The Iowa commission in charge of the State's agricultural exhibit at the St. Louis Exposition is convinced that these experiments will be the basis of one of the most valuable and interesting exhibits at the great fair. They will interest every country in the world which has industries based on grass, hay and live stock. Those who have impartially examined into the experiments and their results thus far believe that Prof. Olin's claims are not too strong.