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CANADA



AS SEEN THROUGH
SCOTTISH EYES

BEING

AN ACCOUNT OF A TRIP TAKEN ACROSS
THE DOMINION

BY THE

**Scottish Agricultural
Commission**

IN THE

AUTUMN OF 1908

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Scottish Agricultural Commission to Canada, 1908.

INTRODUCTION.

At the invitation of the Canadian government 'The Scottish Agricultural Commission' visited Canada in the autumn of 1908. The Commission consisted of 22 members largely drawn from the Scottish Agricultural Commission to Denmark, 1904, and the Scottish Agricultural Commission to Ireland, 1906, and were all either experienced practical farmers or those interested in agricultural education and development.

The names and addresses of those composing the Commission were :—

- G. L. Aitken, Kirkcaldy, Fifeshire (farmer of 900 acres).
Wm. Barber, M.A., J.P., Tererran Moniaive, Dumfriesshire, (farmer of 5,000 acres).
Wm. Bruce, B.Sc., College of Agriculture, Edinburgh (Director of Scottish Chamber of Agriculture).
J. M. H. Dobbie, Campend, Dalkeith, Midlothian (farmer of 580 acres).
Jas. Dunlop, Hallhouse, Kilmarnock (Director of Scottish Chamber of Agriculture).
G. A. Ferguson, J.P., Surrandale, Elgin (farmer of 529 acres).
I. A. Forsyth, Ballintraid, Delny, Ross-shire (farmer of 375 acres).
R. Shirra Gibb, M.D., C.M., J.P. (farmer of 1,900 acres).
R. B. Greig, F.R.S.E., Marischal College, Aberdeen (Farm Manager at Carievale, Sask., Canada, during 1893-94).
W. Henderson, J. P., Lawton, Coupar-Angus (farmer and breeder of Shorthorn cattle).
J. M. Hodge, Blairgowrie, Perthshire (farmer and land agent).
H. Hope, J.P. (President Scottish Chamber of Agriculture, farmer of 700 acres).
Jas. Johnstone, J.P., Alloway Cottage, Ayr (Governor of the West of Scotland Agricultural College).
Jas. Keith, Pitmedden, Undy, Aberdeenshire (farmer of 600 acres).
A. Macintosh, J.P., Uig, Portree, Skye (Land Manager for the Congested Districts Commissioners of Scotland).
T. C. Martin, LL.D., J.P. (Editor of the Dundee *Advertiser*).
E. A. Morrison, M.A., Bonnytown, Strathvithie, Fife (farmer of 650 acres).
A. M. Prain, J.P., Inchtute, Perthshire (farmer on large scale in Perthshire).
Sir John R. G. Sinclair, Bart., D.S.O. (owner of 6,000 acres in Caithness-shire).
J. Speir, Newton, near Glasgow (farmer of 400 acres).
D. A. Spence, V.D., Dunninald Mains, Montrose (farmer of 800 acres).
R. P. Wright, F.R.S.E., The West of Scotland Agricultural College, 6 Blythwood Square, Glasgow (Fellow of the Highland and Agricultural Society).

The party left Liverpool by the *Empress of Ireland* on August 7th, and arrived at Rimouski on August 13th. After disembarking they proceeded by special train to Point du Chene, New Brunswick, and crossed over by a Government boat to Prince Edward Island. Until August 22nd the time of the Commission was spent in visiting the agricultural districts of Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec. The next thirteen days were spent in the Province of Ontario, the party reaching Winnipeg on September 5th. The Prairie Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta were then traversed until September 13th, when the Commission entered British Columbia, the most westerly province of the Dominion.

From the 13th until the 18th of September was spent in British Columbia, and from the 19th until the 28th in the Prairie Provinces, when the party left for Quebec, sailing for Liverpool on October 2nd, by the S.S. *Empress of Britain*.

Throughout the entire trip the farmers of each locality met the Commission and conducted them around their district. Opinions were exchanged and much useful information derived by the Canadian farmers as to the most up-to-date methods of agriculture. About ten thousand miles were covered by railway journey, a short distance by boats, and hundreds of miles by automobiles, and carriages.

Probably never in the history of the Dominion has a party seen the country so thoroughly in so short a time, and as a result of the journey there are twenty-two prominent residents of Scotland in a position to give accurate and reliable information regarding Canada.

The account of the journey as viewed by the Commission together with their views on colonization is herewith given in full as appearing in their official report.

REPORT OF 'THE SCOTTISH AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION TO CANADA, 1908'

ITINERARY.

We arrived at Rimouski, Quebec, in the afternoon of the 13th August, 1908. We were met by Mr. Blake Robertson, of the Immigration Department, who had been delegated to take charge of the arrangements during our trip through Canada, by Mr. Clark, Chief of the Seed Division of the Department of Agriculture, who had been appointed by that department to travel with us during the first part of our journey, and by Mr. Condon, a railway official, who was to look after our transportation while travelling on the Intercolonial Railway. The special train, consisting of two carriages, splendidly got up, which the Canadian government had put at our disposal, and which was to be our home from the Atlantic to the Pacific and back again, was waiting for us at Rimouski. We steamed out of the station about six o'clock at night on our

long journey. The country on either side of the line was poor, fit apparently for nothing but the growing of timber. Darkness, however, was upon us before we had got far, and sight-seeing was out of the question. During the night, however, we heard much and felt not a little. We heard the ceaseless noise of our own train and the intermittent noise of what seemed to be innumerable other trains, and we felt time and again joltings to which we became accustomed afterwards, necessitated apparently by the automatic couplings in use in Canada. We had entered New Brunswick in the night, and before five o'clock next morning had arrived at Point du Chêne, bound for Prince Edward Island, which the Canadian government had decided should form part of our field of operations.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

We were pleased that the smallest and one of the most delightful provinces of the Dominion was to be our starting point, for it made our investigations more exhaustive than we had anticipated. Leaving Point du Chêne at 6.45 a.m., we sailed across Northumberland Strait to Summerside, in Prince Edward Island. On our arrival, the Premier, the Minister of Agriculture, and other important personages, were waiting for us, and that rare hospitality began which overshadowed us every day and every week of our long and pleasant pilgrimage. Many farmers' rigs had been requisitioned, and soon we were experiencing our first ride in Canadian buggies over roads which are the sport of frost and thaw unknown in Scotland, and are, as a result, indescribable to a Scotchman. After a drive of six miles, we reached a butter and cheese factory, which, though not entirely, is to some extent run on co-operative lines. The farmers themselves hold shares in it, though not all the shares. They are paid 4½d. per gallon for their milk, and they get back the separated milk or whey. The factory treats the milk for a specified sum, which, after paying the working expenses, represents the shareholders' dividend. The profit goes to the farmers. After lunch, provided by our hosts, we drove to Freetown, where a special train was waiting to take us to Charlottetown, the capital of the island. It was about 4 p.m. when we got there. Quite a number of citizens were awaiting our arrival, and after some preliminary arrangements were made, we set off in different directions.—the stock men to see stock; the dairymen to see dairies; some went to see general farming, and some to see fruit. The steadings, of the island, so far as we thus had an opportunity of examining them, were not up to date. The stables and the byres were paved with wood. The stalls were somewhat undersized. The cubic space was much below the cubic space in Scotland. But then less cubic space is needed in a country where the thermometer falls to sixteen degrees below zero in winter, and where the cattle are outside mostly in summer.

The land was a light loam on red sandstone, such a soil as there is in the Lothians of Scotland. It is to some extent run out. Much, however, might be made of it, especially when you consider that it sells at from £6 to £10 per acre, and that it is in close proximity to the great markets of America, though, in reckoning up its possibilities, the climate condition must not be forgotten. There was not the energy and the push among the inhabitants which we expected to find. But there is unrest in the air, and that to some extent accounts for the existing condition of things. The New England States are attracting the young men of Prince Edward Island just as the towns are attracting the rural population of every country, and the lure of the western prairie is attracting them more than the New England States. The week we visited the island, 1,100 people left for harvesting in the west. Some would not come home again, and not a few of those who came home would not rest satisfied until they returned permanently to the plains.

NOVA SCOTIA.

We left Charlottetown at 8.20 on the morning of 15th August for Pictou, Nova Scotia. We had intended at once to join our special train at Pictou, and proceed to Truro. The provincial government, however, had provided lunch for us in the Wallace Hotel, at which Mr. McGregor, the member for the county of Pictou, represented the government. The lunch over, a number of representative men accompanied us to New Glasgow, where we saw the great coal mines of Nova Scotia. From New Glasgow we took train to Truro. At the station we were met by Professor Cumming, the Principal of the Agricultural College, who, in thorough business fashion, set about getting the Commission into the carriages that were waiting for them, leaving introductions and everything else for after consideration. In the same systematic business-like way, stock and crops were examined. Subsequently we were entertained to dinner by the college authorities, and had an opportunity of discussing what we had seen. At 9 o'clock, accompanied by Prof. Cumming and Mr. Pearson, the member for the district in the provincial parliament, we left for Halifax. Next day was Sunday. There was no programme, and we spent the day in town. Early on Monday morning we left by special train for the Annapolis valley, which is really composed of five valleys,—the Gasperreau, Avon, Cornwallis, Pereau and Annapolis. Our first stop was at the town of Windsor. On arriving at the station, we were taken to see the dyked-in marsh lands. The tide rises sixty feet in the Bay of Fundy. Sweeping up, it carries much material which settles down as sediment and is left by the returning tide. The old French settlers erected dykes to keep the tide back, as the Dutch have done in Holland, but not before many feet of rich soil had been deposited, which, without any other fertilizer, has gone on bearing heavy crops of hay ever since. Sometimes, when the soil becomes ex-

hausted, at long intervals, these dykes are opened and the land is renewed. We actually saw the process going on in the vicinity of Windsor. We were out in the country for something more than an hour. On reaching the station, we took train to Grand Pré. Fifteen minutes was not long to explore Evangeline's country, but it was all the time available. We saw, at least, the site of the old village where Evangeline and her lover lived on the fateful night when the Acadians were taken to the church hard by, and thence to the not distant shore to await their deportation to the exile from which they never returned. From Grand Pré, one section of the party visited the Hillcrest orchards and the orchards at Wolfville, Greenwich, Port Williams, Starrs Point, and Church street, lunching at the Seminary Hotel as the guests of the Mayor of Wolfville and the staff of Acadia University. The rest of the Commissioners left Grand Pré by special train for Kentville, the headquarters of the Dominion Atlantic Railway. There they divided into two sections. One section went with Sir Frederick W. Borden, Minister of Militia, to visit his orchard and his district. They were entertained by Sir Frederick. The other section visited some farms in the vicinity of Kentville, where Mr. Dodge, one of the members of the provincial legislature, acted as their host. They left Kentville for Berwick at 3 o'clock. Met there by representative farmers, they were driven nearly twenty miles through one of the best parts of the valley, passing on the way Aylesford and Auburn. Kingston was reached at 6.30. Here they caught up the other Commissioners who had joined the train at Kentville, and together they made for Middleton, where the train was put into a siding for the night. The following morning, a visit was paid to Annapolis, a town of 1,000 inhabitants, founded by the French in 1605, where, as usual, we received much kindness. Digby was reached in time to catch the boat which crossed the Bay of Fundy to St. John, and thus ended our too brief stay in Nova Scotia.

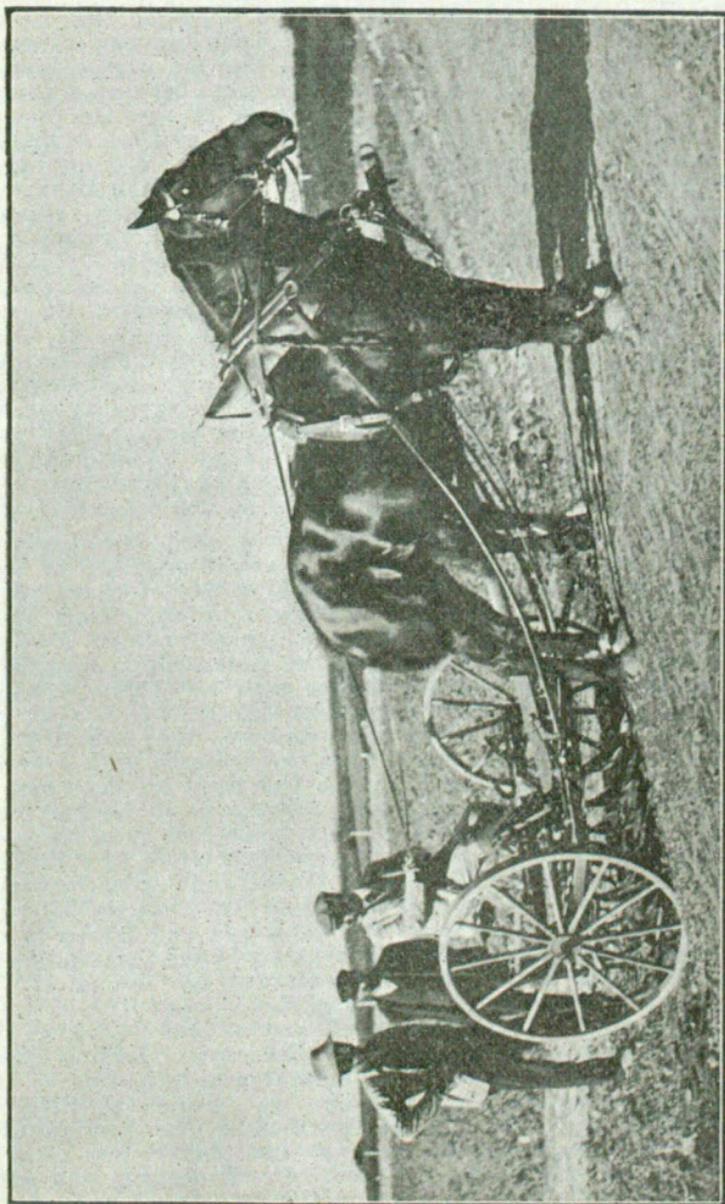
NEW BRUNSWICK.

New Brunswick is more famous for its timber and its game than for its agriculture. But it has agricultural interests, too. Unfortunately, the limitations of time prevented us doing justice to them. In the afternoon of our arrival at St. John, we had only an opportunity of paying a short visit to the New Brunswick Cold Storage Company's premises, and the falls on the St. John river caused by the high tide in the Bay of Fundy. Next day, we left for Fredericton, 84 miles up the St. John river. The Canadian government, with much wisdom, mixed work with pleasure. No better holiday could be spent than the day we spent on this great Canadian waterway. It is broad and majestic, and the hills on either side are covered with a variety of trees in which the spruce seems to predominate, and every now and again there are hamlets and isolated houses of artistic design, painted in various

colours, peeping out from among a profusion of foliage. The hills disappear as you get nearer Fredericton, and the arable land increases. The river in winter overflows its banks and leaves a silt on the land which adds greatly to its fertility, so much so that the farmers grow hay on it year after year without any other fertilizer. In addition to stock farming, market gradening and fruit growing are carried on. In fact, the valley of the St. John is the fruit belt of New Brunswick. The produce is taken mostly to St. John. The river ensures cheap transport. It was about 5 p.m. when we reached Fredericton. City magnates, provincial and Dominion parliamentarians, and University men vied with each other to do us honour. We drove, an imposing procession, with a piper in full Highland costume leading the way to the university, which was examined, and from the top of which we had a magnificent view of the town, which stretches nine miles by four, and contains only a population of some 9,000 inhabitants. It was not the first pretty Canadian town we had seen, but perhaps it was the first that convinced us of the wide spaces and the long avenues overhung with trees, and the lovely lawns, and the artistic houses that characterize the beautiful cities of Canada. Beyond the city, far as the eye can reach, there is forest,—spruce, pine, cedar, hemlock—some at least of which seed themselves, and grow upon the earth as heather grows upon our highland hills. After leaving the university, we went to see some farms, six or seven miles distant. A banquet by the citizens in our honour closed the day's work. Early next morning, we left Fredericton by special train for Woodstock. Members of the provincial parliament and the city council were at the station, and at once we set off in different directions. We found the land to be of varying quality, and some of the farms were getting back to the wilderness out of which they had been carved. We saw one particularly desolate place. The farm house was tenantless: the byres were empty. The call of the west is as irresistible in New Brunswick as elsewhere in eastern Canada.

QUEBEC.

The night of the second day in the province of New Brunswick saw us making preparations to leave for Quebec. We ran through the State of Maine, reaching Knowlton at 7.30 next morning. At 9 o'clock, the Hon. Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture, made his appearance and gave us a hearty welcome. Accompanied by Mr. Fisher, we drove to Mr. Whitman's farm in the vicinity of Knowlton, where we inspected his cattle and examined his byre, which was, like most Canadian byres, floored with wood, and not up to the sanitary requirements of our own country. It had one novelty, a sky railway inside the byre for carrying the food along the main passage, and also for carrying out the manure. Leaving Mr. Witman's farm, we drove towards



Commissioner Henderson tries Canadian Implements.

the hill. On our way up we passed much woodland, composed largely of maple trees, from which maple syrup is extracted. On the top we got a very fine view of the country, a well-wooded country, with Brome lake in the hollow. Descending the hill, the creamery at Knowlton was inspected. It is, if we may put it in that way, like the Prince Edward Island creamery, already described, a cross between a private and a co-operative creamery. The owner charges the farmers 2½ cents per pound of butter made. The profits are divided among the farmers according to the quantity and quality of the milk supplied. After a passing visit to the library at Knowlton, we proceeded to Alva farm, the country residence of Mr. Fisher. A few hours were spent in congenial company. Mr. Fisher had brought to meet us, Judge Lynch, Sir Melbourne Tait, Chief Justice of Quebec, George Foster, lawyer, Montreal; the late Dr. Fletcher, botanist, Ottawa; Dr. Robertson, principal of Macdonald's College, St. Anne de Bellevue; C. H. Parmelee, M.P., and his own father and brother. After lunch served on the lawn, we visited the farm buildings, which were more up-to-date than anything we had so far seen. Nor were his cattle—Guernseys and French Canadians—behind the best of their kind which had come within our observation. Towards evening, accompanied by Mr. Fisher, we left his railway siding en route for Montreal.

It was intended that the forenoon of next day should be spent in Montreal. This, however, was not possible, for some of the Commissioners. At 9 o'clock, seven of them, along with Mr. Fisher, proceeded to a farm, four miles from Montreal. One feature of this farm, which extends to 60 acres, and is rented at 800 dollars, was the melon patch, measuring 1½ acres. On this patch the farmer grew 32,000 melons, which yielded a gross return of something like \$2,000. A visit was also paid to Messrs. Trenholme's dairy in the same district. The byres, which housed 150 cows, were floored with concrete and had an air space of 800 cubic feet per cow. The rest of the Commissioners remained in town, only to be convinced that a forenoon is much too short to explore even the most outstanding features of Canada's greatest city. At 12.15 they left for Macdonald College. Mr. Fisher and his party joined them at Montreal junction. Reaching Ste. Anne de Bellevue, the Commission was met by Dr. Robertson and driven to the college. At the outset, the Doctor gathered the Commissioners together in a classroom and explained the design of the buildings and the general policy of the college. The different rooms were afterwards inspected, and at one o'clock we sat down to lunch as the guests of Dr. Robertson. During lunch, we had ample opportunity of obtaining information on all points of interest. Subsequently, we visited the different sections of the farm—the poultry section, the horticultural section and the live stock section—and then it was time to go. Accompanied to the station by Dr. Robertson, and quite a host of professors, we left for Ottawa.

ONTARIO.

We had now reached Ontario, the wealthiest province in the whole Dominion. It was one of the first settled provinces, and agriculture in consequence has reached a comparatively advanced stage in its development. It was meet that much time should be spent in this province if we were to see the best that Canada could show us of her agriculture. We entered the province on Saturday, 22nd August, and we did not leave till 2nd September. Our first day was a Sunday and it was spent in the capital, which gave us an opportunity of hearing one of Canada's famous preachers. In the afternoon we met at our hotel informally, the Hon. Frank Oliver, Minister of the Interior, and the Hon. R. W. Scott, Secretary of State and acting Premier in the absence of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Between times we got a pretty fair idea of Ottawa, one of the pretty cities of the Dominion. An early start was made on Monday morning in good company, for we had with us some of Canada's most notable public men. We had Mr. Fisher, Mr. Oliver, Mr. Scott, the Hon. William Paterson, Minister of Customs, and Dr. Rutherford, Live Stock Commissioner. Our destination was the Chief Experimental Farm of the Dominion government, a couple of miles outside Ottawa. We were met on the outskirts of the farm by Dr. Fletcher, who was then Chief Assistant to Dr. Saunders, the Director-General of all the Dominion Experimental Farms. Dr. Fletcher introduced us to the different professors and we proceeded to examine the farm, its crops, and its stock, horses, cattle, pigs, poultry, all admirably housed. After lunch, the work carried on at the farm was explained by Mr. Fisher and Dr. Fletcher. On returning to Ottawa, we visited large sawmills on the banks of the Ottawa river. From the sawmills we proceeded to our hotel, bade Mr. Fisher good-bye, and left Ottawa for Brockville.

Brockville is in the vicinity of the Thousand Islands, and our friends at Brockville were not sure whether we would prefer to see the islands or the agriculture of the district. Acting on the wise principle, which we never disputed, of business first and pleasure afterwards, they decided to leave the islands for another time and show us the country, particularly as it is, if not the centre, at least one of the centres in Ontario of the dairy and cheese trade. We were first taken to a cheese-curing establishment at Brockville Station. It was started by the government for the purpose of demonstrating the advisability of curing cheese in an even temperature of 60 degrees. This having been found a good thing financially, the government sold the concern to Senator Derbyshire, to whom it now belongs. From the cheese-curing establishment, we took train to a cheese factory, owned by a private individual, who charges the farmers from 1½ to 1¼ cents per pound for turning their milk into cheese. The profit is divided among the farmers. It is estimated that half the cheese factories in Ontario are run on this principle and half on a purely co-operative basis. A hurried visit was

paid to another factory of the same kind. An examination of farm steadings and stock filled in the remainder of the time at our disposal. Our Canadian friends seemed to have discovered the principle of perpetual motion, and were experimenting with us. At any rate, they were most anxious to give every flying minute some new sight, some new impression to keep in store. And so we just got back to Brockville in time to start for Belleville. Nor could we do more than rush round a part of the country there in the late afternoon, and dine and talk with politicians and farmers when darkness had made exploration impossible. We should have liked to stay over the Highland games on the morrow, which the good people of Belleville believed, we had, among other things, come to see. But it was impossible, not only because we had to be at Guelph next day, but because everything was so arranged that a day's delay upset arrangements weeks ahead. We were at Guelph up to time the following day. Prof. Creelman, the Principal of the Agricultural College, and the visible expression in flesh and blood of business capacity, was there up to time too, and we drove to the college, where we examined the cows, Jerseys, Ayrshires and Shorthorns; the store and fat cattle, Hereford, Shorthorns, Aberdeen Angus, and Galloways; the horses, Clydesdales and trotting mares with foals. Meanwhile, our poultry expert was among the fowls, and the scientific members were with the horticulturist and Mr. Zavitz, Professor of Field Husbandry, asking them many questions about the experimental plots. Luncheon and tea were somehow or other squeezed into the day's work, and it was well on in the afternoon before we left to see a farm some miles out at which Clydesdales were made a specialty. On the way we passed through a good agricultural district, the farms on which averaged 100 acres, and sold at from £12 to £15 per acre. It was night when we finished our inspection of the Clydesdales. But our arrangements permitted us to sleep at Guelph and yet be at Stratford up to time next morning. Our attention there was first directed to a fine herd of dairy cattle belonging to Mr. William Ballantyne. From his farm we proceeded to a cheese factory owned by his brother, at Black Creek. While it is owned by him it is co-operative in a way like all the other factories we had visited. Mr. Ballantyne charges the farmers 1½ cents for every pound of cheese. He hauls their milk but he returns no whey. He has refused to do that, and his father refused to do it before him. The reason is that he believes the tins, if not properly washed, might be contaminated and would contaminate the milk when next sent. His cheese factory was the best we had yet visited. The utensil used for stirring the cheese in the vats was driven by machinery. The whole place was clean and tidy and up to date, but the floor instead of being of concrete, was of wood. Mr. Ballantyne feeds hundreds of pigs. His piggeries are wooden buildings, floored with wood, and the pigs have no bedding. They are crosses of the Tamworth, Yorkshire and Berkshire breeds. They are sent to Montreal and shipped to England.

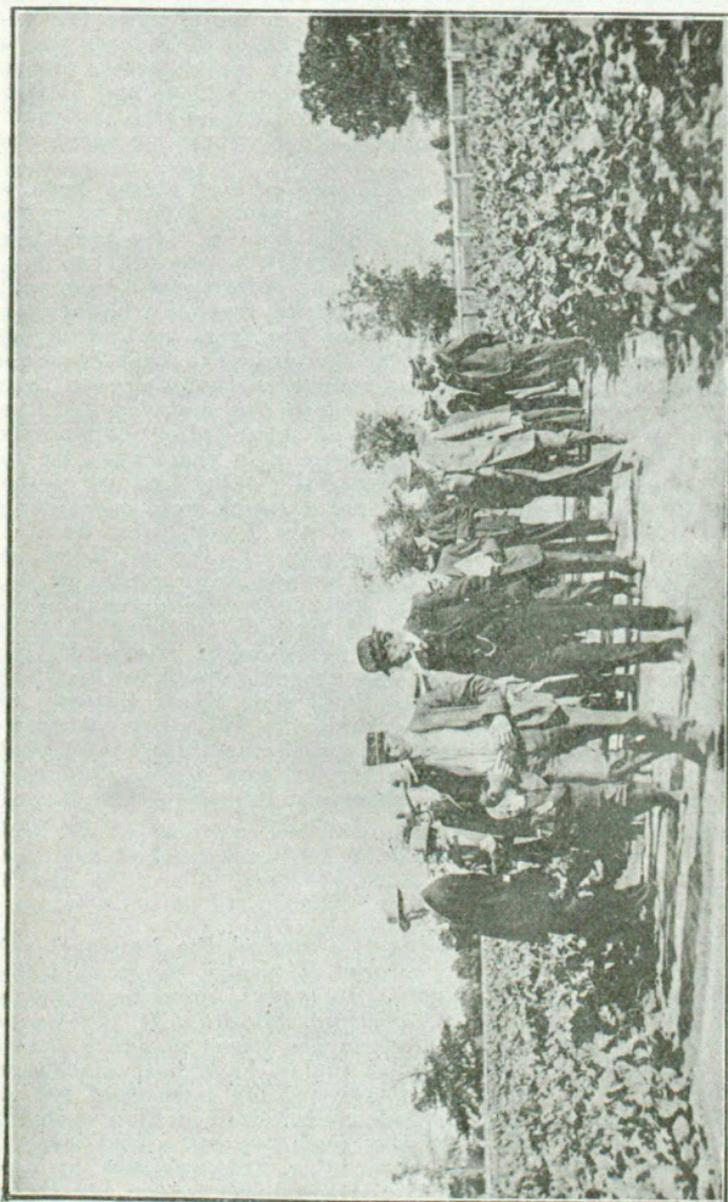
We now turned the horses' heads to St. Mary's. But twenty miles through a good agricultural district intervened. It is both a dairy and a beef-producing district. The farm-houses and steadings are substantial and the roads the best we had seen. Farms extend as a rule to 100 acres, and are rented at from 12s. to 16s. per acre, and land sells at from £16 to £20 per acre. We reached St. Mary's about 2 o'clock and had almost immediately to start with the St. Mary's men to see their district. It is wonderful how much country one can cross behind a pair of good horses, not to speak of a motor car which recognizes no speed limit. We did the St. Mary's district and were able to attend a reception given by Dr. and Mr. Mathieson, before the 5.30 train left for London. In London we were mere birds of passage on our way to Ingersoll, which we reached the morning after we left St. Mary's. The local people had as usual made all the necessary arrangements, and we drove to the premises of the St. Charles Milk Condensing Company, Limited, which owns one hundred and forty-six factories for condensing milk in the United States and Canada. The Ingersoll Company is supplied with the milk of one hundred and eighty-seven farmers, whose farms are situated within a radius of ten miles of the factory. We were anxious to see the dairying district in the immediate vicinity, which supplied the company with milk. An examination of two farms, one of 200 acres and another of 150 acres, and a more general inspection of the country as a whole, convinced us that there were in this district as good farms as we had seen in the province. We did Ingersoll in the forenoon, including, we should have mentioned, the Ingersoll Packing Company's premises which has provision for killing 300 pigs per hour, and reached Woodstock at 12.30. Half an hour later we were driving towards cheese factories similar to those already visited, and farms of different sizes, valued at about £16 per acre. We examined Mr. William Donaldson's farm, at which fat cattle are made a specialty, and Messrs. Macdonald's farm, where shorthorns are bred. On our way back to town we called at a dairy farm of 100 acres owned by Mr. A. J. David, an old Guelph student. He keeps twenty-five Holstein cows. Some give from 1,000 to 1,200 gallons of milk per year. The average, he estimated at from 700 to 800 gallons. We got back to Woodstock travel-stained, who could be anything else motoring over roads with inches of dust on them, but not too travel-stained apparently to be received at a reception—the second held in our honour in two days—at the house of Mr. G. Smith, M.P., where we met many charming Canadians.

Next day, our field of operation was to be in the Brantford district. Soon after our arrival, motor cars and carriages appeared at the station. The party was divided into sections. One section went to see store and fat cattle, another section to see dairy farms, another to see mixed farms, another to see fruit and vegetable farming. More than one section was able to visit the Bow Park Farm, a farm of 960 acres three miles from Brantford. It was once the property of the Hon.

George Brown and was the farm to which the first Shorthorn cattle were brought from Scotland. It is now the property of Massey-Harris & Company. On our way back to the station, we had an opportunity of visiting the house where the telephone system was discovered by Professor Bell. In the evening we attended a banquet given by the Mayor and subsequently, a public meeting, where we met 200 farmers and others from the surrounding district.

We reached Niagara Falls about 7 o'clock on Sunday morning. We had ample opportunity of visiting the falls, both from the Canadian and the American side. The Horse Shoe is the more imposing fall. Looking over the rounded part of the shoe from the Canadian side, you have a fine view of the rapids tossing the water into froth as far as the eye can reach. The spray, possibly because of the direction in which the wind was blowing, was coming over on the promenade, and ladies were sheltering themselves behind their umbrellas. Farther along, the road was soaked as it might have been after a thunderstorm. The picture is one of the mightiest exhibitions of power in nature, but it is marred and defaced. A place which should have been left untouched by man has been turned into sites for factories and workshops, whose chimneys blacken with smoke the heavens above and the earth beneath.

We were early astir the following morning. It was to be a big day in the greatest fruit region of Ontario, the Niagara Peninsula. We explored it from St. Catharines to Hamilton. The first farm visited extended to 75 acres. The owner, a fruit-grower himself, was the son of a fruit-grower, and manages his place well. His farm, though larger than farms are in this district, as a rule, was otherwise typical. From an inspection of various farms we turned our attention to the fruit stores at the station and then to the wine factory, a mile or two out from the town. It was noon when we got back to the station en route for Beamsville. At Beamsville we were met by many farmers and fruit-growers. Mr. Smith, the member for the district in the Dominion parliament, who is a fruit-grower and preserver, was there. We paid a visit to his canning factory, where tomatoes were being canned. From the factory we proceeded by electric car through the district to Hamilton. We made halts at many orchards on the way. We may mention two. They are not typical of the holdings in the Grimsby district. One is occupied by a Perthshire man, who had no experience of fruit-growing before he came to Ontario two years ago. He bought ten acres planted with fruit trees, mostly peach trees, at 1,200 dollars per acre, a great price surely, even when one takes into account the commodious house on the ground. The other orchard was owned and occupied by a man who had one been a farm student with Dr. Gibb. He had been four years in the province, and has fully 50 acres of land. He paid 10,000 dollars for twelve acres, and 200 dollars an acre for the rest. He has built a large house on the ground.



We see Ontario Vegetables.

We got tea inside and there were thirty of us. That gives some idea of the size of the house. Towards Hamilton the soil is of a gravelly nature and is more suitable for early vegetable growing than for fruit culture, and it is used much for this purpose. We left Hamilton in the evening for Toronto. Next day, the municipal authorities of Toronto drove us round the city in motor cars, a city whose streets are so long that they seem to have no beginning and no end. After doing the city we drove to the Toronto show, which is becoming the great live-stock show of Canada, where we spent the greater part of two days.

It was now 2nd September, and we had been eleven days in Ontario. At 10 p.m. we left for the west. Before morning we had passed the far-famed Muskoka lakes. By breakfast time next day we were passing through a desolate country, composed of great boulders of rock, interspersed here and there with scrub. After breakfast, we reached Sudbury on the Canadian Pacific Railway from Montreal to Vancouver. The scenery, however, had not changed save that in some places the trees were larger, an indication that there was less rock and more soil. Now and again the monotony of the picture, seen mile after mile and hour after hour, was renewed by a lake or river or clearing in the forest, where one or more log cabins had been built. One feature of the landscape is miles of long, bare poles, which were once living trees. They indicate the track of the forest fires, quite a number of which we passed on the way. At Woman River we learned that a bridge had been burned down ahead of us, and that it would be necessary to turn back and reach Winnipeg by another route. We got back to Sudbury at 11.30 p.m. ignorant of what our movements might afterwards be. Two routes were possible. One crossed the lakes to Port Arthur and the other by the Sault Ste. Marie Railway to St. Paul and Minneapolis, and thence to Winnipeg. At Sudbury we found a paper posted up with the information that our train was to go to Winnipeg by way of St. Paul and Minneapolis. It was a long detour but it seemed the quickest way to Winnipeg.

MANITOBA.

Just as the sun was setting, we crossed the international boundary at Emerson, and entered Manitoba, the first of the three great prairie provinces. It is not quite forty years since Manitoba had only 17,000 inhabitants. It is always difficult in a new and growing country to get at exact statistics of population, but it must to-day have half a million people. In 1881 it grew about two million bushels of grain. In 1907, the output had reached one hundred million bushels. Entering the province from the south, we got a fair idea of the Canadian prairie, flat as a table, the levelness broken only by settlers' houses, scattered haystacks, and a few trees standing up on the sky-line. But we were not privileged to see much of the province south of Winnipeg, for darkness

set in shortly after sunset, and the sun had set as we crossed the boundary line. It was 9.30 when we reached Winnipeg, and the Town Council, the Provincial Parliament, and nine Scotch societies were represented at the station. Headed by two pipers, we marched to the Royal Alexandra Hotel. On reaching the hall of the hotel, we were warmly welcomed in no less than eleven speeches from the sons of Canada, to which two of our party replied. It was now nearing midnight, but the flower show had been kept open for our special benefit, and those of us who were able to go, visited the show.

Winnipeg, where we spent our first Sunday on the plains, is the gateway of the west, and destined to become one of the very greatest of Canadian towns. It came into being as if by the touch of a wizard's wand. Only forty years ago, in the place where it now stands, there stood Fort Garry, the little Hudson Bay station. To-day Winnipeg has a population of 125,000 inhabitants, and the boundaries of the city, and its population, and its trade are increasing at such a rate that it makes it difficult to measure its size, far less to set any limits to the possibility of its development. But our mission was not to investigate the development of the cities of the west; it was to study the progress of Canadian agriculture, and so early on Monday morning, we were on the prairie, which runs without a break to the Rocky mountains. Our first stop was at Portage la Prairie 57 miles west. Portage is on the bald-headed prairie, and it was one of the first settled places in Manitoba. Seventeen or eighteen years ago, there was not a tree round a farm steading. To-day there is scarcely a homestead where the buildings are not protected by belts of maple, elm or willow. Out from the town, we stopped at the farm of Mr. Frank O'Connor, to see a threshing machine at work. His engine was a 22-horse-power engine, and he could thresh from 1,500 to 1,600 bushels of wheat per day. He not only threshed the wheat on his own farm of 500 acres, but he hired out his threshing machine to other farmers. Our next halt was at the farm of a Mr. McVicar, who came from Kiltearn, in Scotland, fifteen years ago. He was a school-teacher there, and is now well up in years. He has 320 acres, 120 in wheat, 40 in oats and 50 in barley. He has the remainder in pasture and summer fallow. He keeps ten cattle, five cows and six pigs. What rotation he has, and he has not much, is for the purpose of cleaning his ground. He and his four sons practically do all the work. We had intended visiting a stock farm, but there was no time, and we had to drive back to the station, which we left at 12.45 for Carberry. From Portage westward, there is a good deal of scrub, principally poplar, until Macgregor is reached. Then the land is well-wooded on both sides of the line. Interspersed with the wood are large grain fields, dotted in harvest time with huge piles of straw, which are burned, as the farmer keeps no stock. We stopped at Carberry, and went out into a well-settled country, where the log cabin has given place to substantial residences, sheltered from the prairie winds by belts of trees, and where the land sells at from £9 to £12 per acre. The soil is a black,

sandy loam, much lighter than the soil at Portage. The farmers grow wheat and oats and hay, and keep cattle and pigs. The usual custom is to get two crops of wheat, then oats, then barley seeded with timothy, and back again to wheat. On our return to Carberry, we were entertained to dinner by our friends. It was 9 p.m. when we left en route for Brandon. What a succession of banquets! There were some days when most of our meals were banquets—last night, dinner with the good people of Carberry; this morning, breakfast with the citizens of Brandon. Brandon is not like Winnipeg, lying flat on the level prairie. It is built on the rising ground on the south side of the valley through which the Assiniboine flows. The towns and the suburbs are well wooded. The valley is narrower and the hills are not so high, but otherwise it is not unlike the valley of Strathmore, as seen from the foothills of the Grampians. We motored to the Experimental Farm, where Mr. Murray, the superintendent, explained the work that was being done. Experiments had been carried out to decide which varieties of wheat did best. Experiments had also been made with stock. Cattle had been successfully kept all winter in the open, even when the thermometer fell to 40 or 50 degrees below zero, and had done as well as those fed inside and at much less cost. It was difficult for us to believe this, but we were assured that it was a fact, made possible by the growth on the cattle of an exceedingly thick coat of hair, which gave the necessary protection. Probably as interesting an experiment as any was the experiment carried out with the view of proving that trees could be grown on the prairie. The avenues of trees throughout the grounds, all grown within the last twenty-seven years, are standing testimony to the success of the experiment. The crops on the farm, so far as we were able to see them, were exceedingly good. But then the farm, situated in the valley of the Assiniboine, is composed of fertile land. The Commission was divided at the Experimental Farm. Some of them went north and some south of Brandon, thus having an opportunity of examining the poor and the rich soil of the country. The poor soil is very poor, and scarcely worth cultivating. On the other hand, the richer soil, south of the Experimental Farm, is exceedingly good, and is bearing, after years of wheat-growing, from 18 to 20 bushels of wheat to the acre.

SASKATCHEWAN.

After leaving Brandon, we made direct for Saskatchewan. They say in that country that those who drink of the water of the Saskatchewan river may leave the country, but will never rest satisfied until they come back again. Be that as it may, Saskatchewan is rapidly filling up. Our first stop was at Indian Head. It was 7 p.m. when we got there, but motor cars were waiting for us, and we drove by the light of the cars, the fading light of a swiftly-setting sun, and a

full moon, through the Experimental Farm, which was started twenty-one years ago. One thing at least the farm had demonstrated, and that is that trees can be grown here as well as on other parts of the prairie. We drove round the farm through avenues of well-grown Manitoba maple, cotton tree and willow. We could also see in the fading light that large crops of wheat and oats were being grown. From the Experimental Farm, we were driven to the Forestry Station, the first, we believe, in the Dominion. From the Forestry Station we went to a hotel in town, and met quite a number of farmers with whom we discussed agricultural affairs. At 9 o'clock we were entertained to dinner. An address was presented to us by the Town Clerk, and the Mayor, in name of the town, gave us a welcome to the province. Mr. Mackay, the Superintendent of the Experimental Farm, explained the work he was doing. He told us that at one time the difficulty with farming was the want of moisture. The rainfall is seventeen or eighteen inches. He recommended the farmers to grow wheat for two years, leaving the stubble the first autumn one or two feet long, so that it might retain the snow and thus conserve moisture. He advised them to burn the stubble the following spring, and without ploughing, but after discing or harrowing, to sow wheat again, devoting the third year to summer-fallow to get rid of the weeds. This scheme has been very successful, with the result that large crops, averaging 27 bushels of wheat to the acre, are grown. The Superintendent of the Forestry Station also spoke, explaining the object of the station, which was created to prove that trees could be grown,—trees for shelter, for fuel and for beauty.

By Wednesday morning, 9th September, we had reached Regina, the capital of Saskatchewan, where we were entertained to breakfast. Then we motored out into the country. The land was black loam, as usual, and somewhat heavy. It was typical prairie land. There were practically no trees, and the levelness was only broken by the settlers' homesteads, some of which were of the smallest and most meagre description. One farm we visited contained 1,000 acres. It was owned and occupied by a settler from Ottawa. He paid thirty dollars per acre for his 600 acres, which is about the price of land both in this district and in the Indian Head district. He expected to make this year £2,000 of profit. We do not know whether or not his expectations were realized. He was, at any rate, satisfied he could do far better on the prairie than in the eastern provinces.

It was about 12 o'clock when we got back to the cars. At 1.30 we reached Moosejaw, where the party was divided. Most of the Commissioners stopped at Moosejaw. They were met by leading citizens and driven in different directions to see the country in the vicinity of the city. Subsequently, they examined an elevator adjoining Moosejaw station. These buildings are unsightly to look at, but very servicable. The cart goes into the elevator loaded with grain. The planks on which the wheel rests are lowered towards the end of the cart, and the grain goes below. By an elevator, which is

really an endless revolving chain, with buckets on it, the grain is carried up to the cleaner. It is weighed both when on the cart and after being cleaned. From the cleaner it is taken by an elevator to bins above. From these bins, it is carried outside the elevator and dropped into waggons on the railway line, which is always alongside of the elevator. In the evening, the Commission was entertained to a 'smoker.'

ALBERTA.

During the night of 9th September, the Commission left Moosejaw for Alberta, a province double the size of Great Britain and Ireland, with only a population of about 200,000, and containing great variation of soil and climate. The southern part, through which the Commission was to travel, is called 'Sunny Alberta,' and but for the fact that part of it is an arid region much affected by the Chinook winds, it would be the best part of the prairie provinces. Medicine Hat was reached at 10 a.m. next day. The natural gas system, belonging to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, was examined. The afternoon was spent at a horse ranch, eight miles from the city, owned by the Canadian Land and Ranching Company, Limited. The manager rounded up the stock and gave the Commission every opportunity of obtaining information in regard to the ranch. Lethbridge was reached early on Friday, 11th September. After a brief stay, a detour was made to Raymond, the centre of the beet industry, where irrigation, beet-growing and sugar manufacturing were the subjects of investigation. A little farther on, a halt was made at Magrath, and forty miles southwest another halt at Cardston. Both towns are centres of fall wheat farming. The fall wheat is sown in August, and the land is fallowed every alternate year. As fall wheat ripens a fortnight earlier than spring wheat, it has much more chance to escape autumn frost. Besides, the crop is heavier. One large field in the Cardston district, which called for special attention, was estimated to yield from 45 to 50 bushels per acre. Returning to the cars, about 5.30, the Commission got back to Lethbridge at 7 o'clock, where a pleasant evening was spent at the club. The Macleod district was examined on Saturday afternoon, and a start made for Calgary en route for British Columbia.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

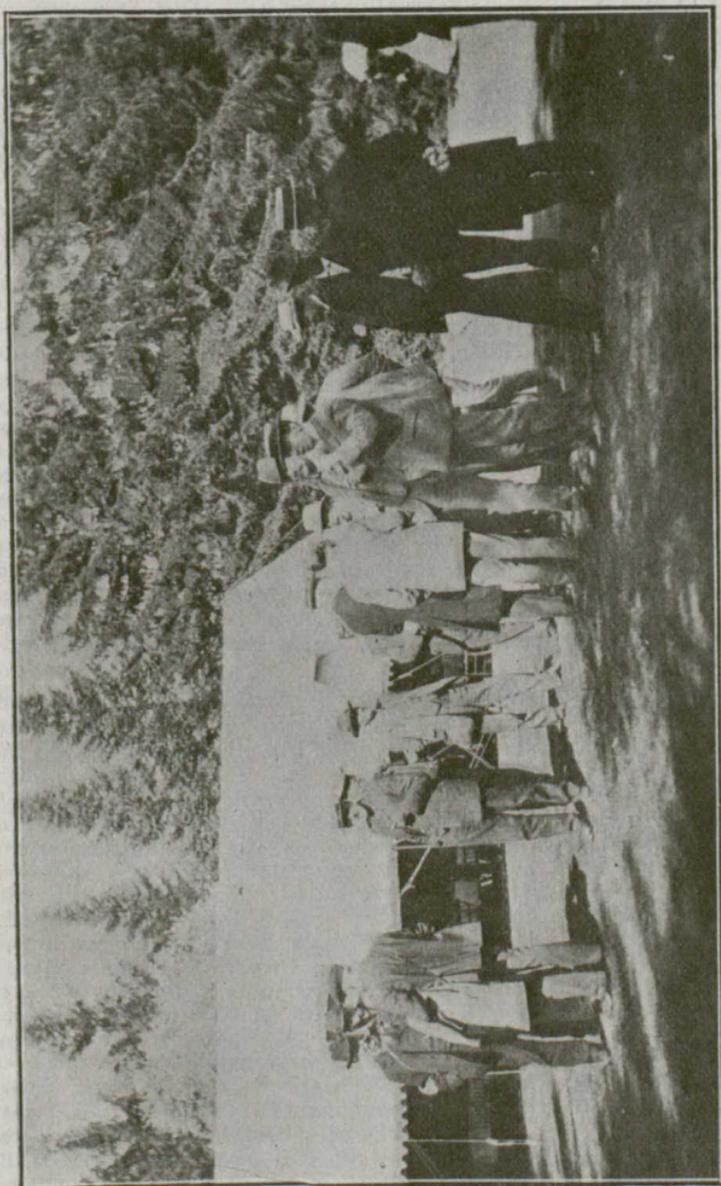
British Columbia is composed of great mountain ranges and lovely valleys. It is not, therefore, to the same degree as the other provinces, an agricultural country, but the climate, which is the best in Canada, enables the farmer to make the most of the land that is available. From Calgary, the Rocky Mountains rise in the distance, their lofty peaks

covered with snow. They are properly designated Rocky Mountains, being mountains of rock thrown up as if by convulsions, with little timber on them. A short halt was made at Banff, a summer resort in the mountains. The best of the scenery, however, was to come. The Selkirk Mountains, while not so high as the Rocky Mountains, are much more picturesque. They are well wooded; there is abundance of Douglas firs, spruce, cedar and hemlock. The trees are not great trees such as you find in some parts of British Columbia. They have not had a chance, forest fires having burned them down time and again. But they are abundant, and they add greatly to the beauty of the scenery. At Field, there is an admirable hotel, which has food steaming hot for the passengers when the train stops. If complaint had sometimes to be made of the service in some of the hotels in Canada, assuredly no complaint can be made as to the rapidity with which food is served in these railway hotels in the mountain ranges of British Columbia. Farther on, there is the loop on the line which attracts the attention of all passengers through the Rockies, though it is not such a wonderful loop as the one on the line cutting through the Alps from Lucerne to Italy. There is also the Kicking Horse Canon, where the train crosses and recrosses the foaming river. Possibly, however, the sight in the mountains is the Three Sisters covered with everlasting snow, and the glacier. The passengers get out at Glacier for refreshments, and have an opportunity of taking in the wonderful picture. The scenery continues more or less magnificent through the mountains. Revelstoke was reached in the evening of Sunday, 13th September.

We said that the Commission split into two at Moosejaw, and we have described, the wanderings of the main wing. The other section of the Commission proceeded to the Kootenay district in British Columbia, with the view of examining fruit-farming there. It was a long run from Moosejaw to the Kootenay landing. The country, for many miles after Moosejaw was left behind, was poor country, composed of sand for the most part, on which scrub was growing. It was also an undulating country, rolling like the sea. Farther west, the undulation increased and the ground became more stony, and for many miles no settlers' house was in evidence. Just beyond Lake Chaplin was seen the track of a great prairie fire, which covered a distance estimated at sixty miles long by twelve broad. A strange thing had happened. The fire seemed to have swept round a dwelling-house with some acres of ground, and left the house and the ground untouched. The place was, of course, protected by a firebreak, that is, some furrows had been ploughed round the holding, and when the fire reached the ploughed land, it was unable to get across. The land remained poor, and in many places there seemed to be much alkali in the ground until between six and seven o'clock, when Swift Current was reached. It was 11.30 when this section of the Commission got to Medicine Hat and on board the Kootenay train. By six o'clock next morning, some of them got up in time to see Macleod.

From Macleod westward, the country has been developing into a wheat-raising country, and the rancher is being driven out. Land which could have been bought for a few dollars some years ago costs thirty dollars now. Towards the foothills, the higher reaches of the Rockies looked quite refreshing after the plains. A good view of the Crow's nest mountain and of Crow's nest lake was obtained. At Frank, the Commissioners saw the scene of the great slide of two years ago. Part of the mountain left its moorings and came down, burying most of the village absolutely, and throwing the stones two miles across the valley. Every now and again a mining town was passed, indescribably dirty, amid the most majestic scenery. If Ruskin had only seen the hovels and the dirt, and the mess man had made of nature, he would have exhausted all the dictionaries of all time to find forcible words enough to give expression to his rage. Forest fires were smouldering here and there on the mountain sides, especially in the district where the great Fernie fire raged. The trees were either burned to the ground or were standing bare, black poles. Hard by the railway, a saw-mill was a blackened heap, with the funnel of the engine twisted into a shapeless mass. At Fernie, there was the blackness of desolation. The town of 6,000 inhabitants was swept out of existence, all save a few of the houses. It was only a little more than a month since the fire, and quite a number of the tents which housed the people were still being used, but there were scores of houses,—wooden houses, of course—already erected, and others were being rushed up at a great rate, for Fernie is an important mining centre. The people need have no fear of another fire. This one has done its work well and there will be nothing more to burn for a long time. Beyond Creston, where the railway line turns northwards, the first indication of fruit-farming was seen in clearings in the forest. At Kootenay Landing, which was reached about five o'clock, the Nelson steamer was waiting the arrival of the train. Kootenay Lake is a pretty lake, and the sail to Nelson is interesting. Unfortunately, most of it had to be done after darkness had set in. It was far on in the night when Nelson was reached.

At 9 a.m. on Friday, 11th September, in company with a number of the outstanding men of Nelson, the forenoon was spent in visiting the town and getting facts and figures about its development. The afternoon was spent among the orchards on the banks of the lake, where the land is so limited that the people of the Okanagan tell a story of a man who, passing along the shore of the lake one day, saw dust rising from the road, and on reaching the spot, found a Kootenay fruit-grower getting to his feet, muttering in his wrath that that was the third time that day he had fallen out of his orchard. The following day was devoted to an exploration of Fire Valley. Killarney, on Arrow Lake, was reached by boat from Robson at 5 o'clock in the morning. Horses were waiting, and a twenty-six miles ride had to be done before night, partly over a waggon track and partly over a bridle path.



At the Home of the Hon. Sydney Fisher.

Halts were made at different farms by the way, which had been cleared of timber and were under cultivation. The growth was certainly amazing. It would be difficult in any part of the world to surpass the growth of fruit trees and of clover in the Fire Valley. It was four o'clock in the afternoon when the party got back to Killarney, in time to catch the boat for Robson. It was a roundabout way to get to Arrowhead, whither the Commissioners were bound, but as there was no boat going north, they had to take one going south, which was timed to leave Robson early, the following morning, direct for Arrowhead.

The Arrow Lakes are spots of beauty, but the mist often hides them partially from view. Just enough was seen in the early part of the day to show that the country is very rugged and wild. By noon the fog had cleared away, and a fine panorama presented itself to the view. It was a forest and mountain country, with valleys of some extent, apparently piercing the hills here and there. At the lake side there were a few pretty cottages, and quite a number of log cabins, sitting in clearings which the settlers were making in the forest. Arrowhead, of the north end of Arrow Lake, came into view about one o'clock. It is situated at the foot of a precipitous mountain. Revelstoke, on the main Canadian Pacific Railway line, was reached at 3.30. Two hours later, the westbound train steamed into the station with the main wing of the party, and the whole Commission was together again. Dr. Saunders, Director of Experimental Farms, had been with the main wing for some days, and those who had been in the Kootenay district had only time for a few minutes' conversation with him, as he was leaving at Revelstoke.

About 7 o'clock on Monday, 14th September, we had reached Agassiz, a town which had some little connection with the geologist of that name. A cousin of his, about 1862, sailed up the Fraser river, and mounting a hill, looked down on the valley below. Thinking it was a good place to live in, he sent men who were with him to clear things up, and later on he came as the first settler and settled there, and the town built on his land got its name from him. The soil, in some parts at least, is silt and very good. Mixed with the silt there is a deal of sand, and the soil is thus easily worked. The rainfall, however, is exceedingly heavy. The main industry is dairying. Fruit-growing, however, is developing, but the district is too wet for fruit-growing. The farms vary in extent from 10 to 600 acres. Land in the immediate vicinity of Agassiz sells at from 60 to 300 dollars per acre. In the afternoon, we drove to the Experimental Farm. It was bought from the Agassizs about twenty-two years ago. It is questionable whether an experimental farm should ever have been planted in this particular district. At 8 p.m. we left for Vancouver, which was reached about midnight, and next morning we were driving round the city with Vancouver's notable men, as genial a company as we could have wished. A wonderful city it is. In 1886, it contained 600 in-

habitants ; to-day it contains from 60,000 to 80,000. It has a beautiful situation. The streets are wide and long, and the city has been built, like most Canadian cities, on some reasonable principle, the idea of extension being ever kept in view.

In the afternoon we left for Victoria. During the sail, you never lose sight of wooded hills and loftier rugged mountains. It is homelike, reminding one of some of the Scottish lochs. When you get among the islands on the Victoria side, the scenery leaves little to be desired. It was dark before we got into Victoria. Next morning, we explored the island as far as that could be done from 8.30 to 12.15. As the island is 300 miles long by 30 miles broad, the exploration was by no means exhaustive. The island has a delightful climate, with a moderate rainfall. Its proximity to the markets of the west coast points it out for development along the lines of market gardening and fruit-growing.

BACK TO THE ATLANTIC.

We had now crossed the continent from ocean to ocean, and were ready to start on our long homeward journey. We had, however, some calls to make by the way. We had to see the Delta country in the vicinity of Vancouver; we had to go south to the Okanagan Valley; a visit had to be paid to the irrigation works of the Canadian Pacific Railway at Gleichen; homesteading south of Maple Creek demanded attention; the park lands in the Edmonton and Prince Albert districts had to be examined; the bald-headed prairie round Saskatoon had to be explored; a day in the Carman district southwest of Winnipeg; and then home as fast as trains and steamer could take us. On returning to Vancouver, on Wednesday, 16th September, a few of the Commission went to Shaughnessy Heights, above the town, to see a steam stump belonging to the Canadian Pacific Railway clearing the ground of timber at a cost of 150 dollars per acre. In the evening we were entertained at a 'smoker' by the citizens of Vancouver. At 8.30 the following morning, we started along with many of our Canadian friends, for a tour in the Delta country. We travelled out of the city by the electric railway. At Eburne, we left the cars and were driven round Sea Island, which is about seven miles from Vancouver. In the drive we saw some very fine alluvial land, brought down by the Fraser river. The soil is many feet thick, and is used for dairying by white men and market gardening by Chinese. Judging from the price of produce, it would be a veritable earthly paradise for the dairyman and the market gardener but for the fact that the price of land is too high. Much of it is held under leases at from £2 to £4 per acre, and it sells at about £60 per acre. On returning from our drive, we got aboard our cars again, and after a short time arrived at Steveston, where we examined the Columbian Salmon Tinning Company's works. Leaving this factory, we crossed the Fraser river. At Ladners we found motor

cars waiting to drive us through a rich agricultural district, where the land is as fertile as the Sea Island land, and capable of producing as abundant crops. After motoring many miles through this district, we ascended some hills and got into a better country, from the picturesque point of view. For miles we swept through woodland, with nothing but the long trail of the road in front and rear, a road which ran like a switchback railway, and was not so pleasant to ride over. After more than an hour's run, we reached New Westminster. There was not time, however, to stop. Crossing the Fraser river, we made for Vancouver direct, from which, at 5.15 we had a great send-off.

We arrived at Sicamous Junction on the following morning, where we changed for Vernon, in the Okanagan Valley. At Vernon Station, we were taken in hand by capable men, who realized that we had come to see the importance of this district as a fruit centre, and had determined that we should see it. Their fruit exhibition had just been opened, and what better way in a limited time to show us the productiveness of the district than by showing us a collection of all the fruits which it produced. To the show, then, we proceeded, and were filled with amazement at the magnificence of the fruit exhibits. At noon, we were entertained in the show ground to a delightful lunch, which, among other things, included a Scotch haggis, the first we had tasted in Canada. After lunch, we drove some miles to Lord Aberdeen's ranch. Returning to Sicamous Junction, in the evening we left by the night train for Calgary. Dr. Martin and Mr. Macintosh, two of the Commissioners, went straight from Calgary to Quebec, en route for home. Another section of the party proceeded to Gleichen, to visit the irrigation farm and works belonging to the Canadian Pacific Railway, and returned to Calgary during the night.

HOMESTEADING.

So far, we had had no opportunity of seeing land which was being homesteaded, and we felt that this part of the subject was too important to be omitted. A party of five was selected, and arrangements made for taking them to see the homesteaders at work south of Maple Creek. On their arrival at Maple Creek, they were met by Mr. Roy, of the Immigration Department. Equipped with two buggies and one waggon carrying the camp and provisions, and with a saddle horse, the party started in the afternoon, and camped out that night about fifteen miles south of Maple Creek. Next day, a southeasterly course was kept to the east end of Frenchman River, where the camp was pitched the second night. An easterly course was steered the third day, and a much better country was entered than that through which the party had hitherto travelled. By noon, section 13, township 7, range 20, was reached, where the land appeared to be extremely good, and homesteaders' shacks began to appear. A short distance



Inspecting the Cattle.

farther on, a stop was made at the shack of a M. Bouffet, a Frenchman, who had come out and begun operations only in April. It was found that he had broken up about 25 acres of land, but with the dry summer, had been discouraged from ploughing more. The building of a house and a stable, and the digging of a well, 25 feet deep, from which he was getting a good supply of water, had taken up the remainder of his time. To the north, other shacks were examined, and then the party pitched their tents for the night. Next day, more homesteads were passed, some of the houses being built of wood and some of sods, and then the 'homesteaders' made tracks for Winnipeg. They were impressed with the difficulties which the homesteader had to encounter, but were satisfied that in the part of the country which they had visited, the settlements had been made on good soil, and that there was every prospect of the homesteaders, or at least those of them who had grit, succeeding. Success, however, would be more certain if the small farmer had 1,000 dollars or more to buy equipment and stock, in addition to which he would need to have 500 dollars to keep himself for fully two years, until a return is got, unless he finds work elsewhere in winter.

Those of us who had stayed at Calgary, visited, in the afternoon of our arrival, Mr. Turner's farm, about five miles out, with the object of seeing his Clydesdale horses, Short-horn cattle, and Shropshire sheep. Along with the section of the Commission that went to Gleichen, we stayed in Calgary till midnight on Sunday. By breakfast time on Monday, we had reached Red Deer, and were ready further to prosecute our investigations. Near the town, we visited a farm consisting of a half-section of good black loam; which the farmer bought six years ago for six dollars per acre, and from which he harvested 45 to 50 bushels of wheat per acre. His rotation is: fall wheat, then oats or barley seeded down with timothy and white clover, which he leaves in the ground for two years. Farther on, we turned into a 300-acre farm, owned by a man who settled in Canada in 1885, without any knowledge of agriculture. He bought a quarter section for four dollars an acre. He grows, first year, oats or barley; second and third year, oats or barley; fourth year, summer-fallow; fifth year, fall wheat. His average crop of wheat is 35 to 38 bushels per acre; oats, 50 to 60 bushels; barley, 40 to 45 bushels. But he has not all his eggs in one basket. He had fifty head of cattle at the time of our visit. Perhaps the most interesting visit of the day was to a farm owned by a young Englishman who had a university education and no training in agriculture. When he went to Canada seven years ago, he did not know, according to his own statement, the one end of a cow from the other. He bought 160 acres of land for 12 dollars an acre. After breaking up the ground, he sowed fall wheat. This was followed by oats and barley, which in turn gave place to oats, seeded partly with rye grass and partly with timothy, which ended the rotation. But he is pre-eminently a dairy farmer, depending for the

most part on a herd of pure Jersey cattle. He sends his produce to the government creamery at Red Deer, and is paid according to the percentage of butter fat. He separates the milk himself, and he keeps a milk record. He seemed to be doing well, and gave us the impression that he was learning his trade, although no doubt he was paying for it. One part of the Commission now inspected a herd of good Short-horn cattle on a neighbouring farm, while the others proceeded to Red Deer to examine the government creamery, started in 1896. It deals with the milk of 130 farmers, manufactures 5,000 pounds of butter per week in summer, and 1,000 pounds per week in winter. The expense of working is about five cents per pound. The farmers get an advance every month, and they are paid the balance twice every year. The butter is sent to the Government Cold Storage at Calgary, and then shipped, along with other butter, to British Columbia, China and Japan.

PARK LANDS.

On the way north to Edmonton, four of the Commissioners went off at Lacombe to see the Experimental Farm. They came into Edmonton later on with glowing accounts of the district and of the good work which the Experimental Farm was doing. The section which continued the journey towards Edmonton were met at Strathcona by representatives of the city and of the Board of Trade, and driven to a farm 1½ miles from the town, owned and occupied by a man who came from England eleven years ago. He had then only 1,500 dollars, and no knowledge whatever of farming, and only six months to live. He bought some land for eight dollars an acre, and sold some a week or two before we visited his place for between 100 and 200 dollars an acre. He has comparatively good health now, and a well-stocked, and apparently a well enough managed farm.

We were the guests of the people of Edmonton on the following day, and the country from Edmonton to Fort Saskatchewan was explored. It was a big day, counting by miles. We lengthened it somewhat by going on the south side of the river Saskatchewan and returning on the north side. It would, in ordinary circumstances, have been enjoyable, since it gave us ample opportunity of seeing the fine park lands of Edmonton, but the weather had changed in the night. It was bitterly cold, and a biting wind was blowing. Moreover, we had been taken completely by surprise, and had neither sufficient underclothing nor outward wraps. We stopped only once by the way, at a farm of 160 acres owned by a Mr. Stevens. He bought the farm seven years ago for 22 dollars per acre. His rotation is: spring wheat, then oats; then barley, and then timothy. He harvests from 35 to 40 bushels of wheat, 60 to 70 bushels of oats, and 35 to 40 bushels of barley per acre. He keeps a Jersey herd, and sends his cream to a creamery in summer and his whole

milk in winter. On reaching Fort Saskatchewan, which, by the way, is the headquarters of the Northwest Mounted Police, a body, it is said, of perfectly incorruptible men, we at once made for the hotel, where lunch had been provided for us. Various speeches were delivered, and it was 3.30 when we got aboard again, with our faces set towards the biting wind and Edmonton. As on the outward journey, so on the homeward journey, we made only one stop by the way. It was at a packing-house belonging to J. Y. Griffin & Company, Limited, which has just been opened. It will be able to kill 100 cattle and 250 hogs per day. Its significance lies in the fact that it is located in the centre of an agricultural country, which means that here at his own door the farmer has a market for cattle and pigs. This in turn means that he can rear stock and get into a systematic system of mixed farming, which, in course of time, must come. The day was closed, as so many days were, by a banquet, given on this occasion by the Edmonton Board of Trade.

There is great rivalry between Edmonton and Strathcona. They are both beautiful for situation, standing on high, well-wooded ground on opposite banks of the North Saskatchewan river. These towns vie with each other as to which was to have the greater honour in entertaining us. The Strathcona people, as we have pointed out, met us when we arrived and showed us round part of their district. The Edmonton people had us the next day. It was the Strathcona people's turn now. We were driven ten or fifteen miles into the country. We stopped at the farm of a Mr. Ellett, ten miles from Strathcona. He was a jeweller in London, and came to Canada in 1885. He knew absolutely nothing about farming till 1888, when he settled down in this district. He homesteaded 160 acres. In 1890, he bought 200 acres, part of which cost six dollars and part 20 dollars an acre; 100 acres are now broken up, and the rest is in grass and scrub. He sows wheat when he breaks up his land, then oats, then barley, with rye or timothy or brome, and he leaves the grass down three years. Sometimes he summer-fallows after the oats and before the barley. He keeps forty head of Aberdeen-Angus cattle. He also breeds horses and pigs. After leaving Mr. Ellett's farm, we turned the horses' heads towards Strathcona, where the Board of Trade, not to be outdone by the Edmonton Board of Trade, entertained us to lunch. Before we had well begun, the Edmonton people had arrived with rigs to take us round the city of Edmonton. It was a kindly rivalry, all to our advantage, and if the Edmonton people were to any extent having the monopoly of the Commission, it must be, we supposed due to the fact that Edmonton is the capital of Alberta, and has a population of over 20,000, whilst Strathcona, which possibly will one day be the residential part of Edmonton, has only a population of from 4,000 to 5,000 inhabitants. The afternoon was spent in visiting the old fort of the Hudson Bay Company, the coal mines along the river bank, and the telephone system, which is worked at the central office automatically. Headed by four

pipers, the Commission, or what was left of them, proceeded to the station as modestly as they could, followed by a crowd of interested spectators, who cheered lustly as we steamed out of the station for Prince Albert.

We cannot speak of the country from Edmonton to Battleford, for we passed it in the night. From Battleford to Warman, the prairie is rolling and flat by turns. At Warman we were met by the Acting Mayor of Prince Albert, who had arranged that we should leave the train at Clouston and drive to Prince Albert, eleven miles distant. On the way, we visited a large farm owned by Mosson, Boyd & Company, Ontario, consisting of three sections, 320 acres under crops. After breaking the land, the rotation is : first year, wheat; second year, oats; third year, barley; fourth year, summer-fallow. Wheat then follows, and the rotation is the same as before. Stock, however, is their great standby. They keep 600 head of good Hereford cattle. They also specialize in horses, favouring the Suffolk breed. After examining the stock, we drove round the farm, and from the hilltop had a magnificent view. We could see twenty miles in every direction but the land, save here and there, where homesteads were cleared, was nothing but scrub. Lunch, provided by the Prince Albert Board of Trade, was waiting for us when we returned to the farm-house. It was 8 o'clock at night before we got to Prince Albert. We had, however, other four hours before midnight, and we spent most of them at a smoking concert got up in our honour.

The Saskatoon district was our objective the next day. The town itself has risen miracle-like on the plains. One of the Commissioners looked from the far side of the Saskatchewan river to the town, and realizing that it had all come into being in seven years, he declared that it would have taken our people at home all that time to draw the plans. Five years ago, there were only 100 inhabitants ; now there are 5,000. There is a telephone and electric lighting system, a municipal council and a board of trade. If the streets are still rough and unmade, a few years will work a revolution and Saskatoon, we doubt not, will be one of the great prairie towns of Canada. Possibly, it owes its existence to the development of the prairie in the neighbourhood. We had a fair opportunity of examining it. It is bald-headed prairie, with scarcely a tree and with only a slight roll to break the monotony of the levelness. It is mainly devoted to wheat-growing. The soil in some parts is a black loam for a few inches, chocolate-coloured below that, with a subsoil of marl. Seven or eight years ago, there was not a homestead between Lumsden and the Canadian Pacific Railway and Saskatoon. We saw scores of them ourselves that day, and there are hundreds which we did not see. There is no district in Canada filling up more rapidly than the district round Saskatoon.

We had now reached the end of another week. It was Saturday night once more, and we were making for Winnipeg. The land alongside the line was, on the whole, poor



SCOTTISH AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION AT OTTAWA, CANADA.
Back row : Mackintosh, Keith, Hodge, Dunlop, Prain, Morrison, Ferguson, Henderson.
Centre Row : Johnstone, Gibb, Bruce, Wright, Martin, Sinclair, Hope, Dobbie, Speir.
Front Row : Forsyth, Barber, Greig, Aitken, Spence.

land, not well settled. Sloughs were numerous. Brush and scrub prevailed in many places. A good deal of alkali was present in the soil. The settlers, where they did exist, were mostly from the States and from foreign countries. Early on Sunday morning, we passed Gladstone. The ground was white with snow. As we got towards Portage la Prairie, the snow turned into sleet and rain. It was wintry-like, with the stooks white and the roads sloppy and as we entered Winnipeg, the air was biting as if it had been blowing over miles of snow.

All things come to an end, and Monday morning saw us begin the last of our investigations as an Agricultural Commission. Part of the Commission remained in Winnipeg to complete some investigations there. The rest proceeded to Carman, a town of about 2,000 inhabitants, fifty miles southwest of Winnipeg. After this section got well out of the town, they entered what appeared to be a good farming district. It was level prairie with very little bush. At Spurling the farms seemed to be large. The soil was black loam, and apparently rich in humus. In some parts it seemed easily worked, but in others it was heavy. The subsoil was generally clay. At Carman the country is well wooded and long settled. It is a good country for mixed farming, but it must be on the way towards exhaustion, for wheat farming, when you consider that the fertility of the soil which is a sandy loam on clay, has been reduced by the growing of wheat for twenty or thirty years. We returned to Winnipeg in good time to catch the evening train for Quebec.

We had only a day to explore Quebec, and it was raining most of the time, but we managed somehow to get a general idea of the quiet, sleepy town of narrow streets and steep braes, and broken English—a city at the gateway of a great British colony which is everything that this city is not. Then it cleared up and as we put out to sea, we looked back and saw the sun sinking in the western sky. Colours which no pen could describe were on land and sea. It was a fitting sunset to the happy summer time we had spent in Canada.

COLONIZATION.

Scotland is an old country. It is limited in extent, and it has an ever-increasing population. It is inevitable that there should be men without elbow-room to carve out for themselves a destiny. Their numbers may vary, according to the wisdom or want of wisdom with which we manage our national affairs. As it is, thousands are leaving our shores every year for distant lands. Our object in this report is not to augment but to direct and guide this stream, so that that which the mother country must lose, the colonies may gain.

A WORD OF WARNING.

At the outset, we should like to say, with all the emphasis possible, that there are certain classes which Canada does not want, and for which she makes no provision. There is first of all, and pre-eminently, the 'remittance men,' men who live on remittances from long-suffering relatives at home. A new life in a new land seems to do little for them. They are what they have ever been. They give no promise of being anything else, and they constitute a drag on the wheel of Canadian progress. There is another class, in every way respectable, composed of professional men and tradesmen, for whom there is no work in Canada meantime. The land is overflowing with them. If they are to emigrate at all, it ought to be to some other colony, where the changes of success are greater.

FARMERS WANTED.

The men wanted in Canada are men with a knowledge of agriculture. There are many openings for such men, but they must be careful. Canada is a new country, and its people are full of hope. It is suffering from honest exaggeration. It is suffering too from a worse evil, from a superabundance of real estate agents and speculators in land. It is, however, so good a country that exaggeration can but harm it, and we, who have no land to sell, are doing it the best service we can when we tell the truth about it. It is a country of almost boundless possibilities, from an agricultural point of view, but it is also a country of many climates, not all equally good, and of great varieties of soil, not all equally suitable for farming, and while we are satisfied that there are in Canada splendid opportunities for the right kind of emigrants, we are equally satisfied that no man should farm in Canada until he knows the country and its climatic conditions, and has learned by experience as a hired hand, or otherwise, what Canadian farming means.

THE EASTERN PROVINCES.

To men thus equipped, men of knowledge and experience, there are openings both in eastern and western Canada. Emigration to the eastern provinces has been showing even in late years, a steady increase. In 1901, 18,568 emigrants entered eastern Canada. During the nine months ending 31st December, 1907, 119,829 emigrants entered eastern Canada. But we hesitate to suggest the east, on the ground that though it is more homelike to Scotchmen than the western prairie, the gold does not lie so near the surface. Money is not so quickly and so easily made. Besides, while the tendency of population in eastern Canada is partly towards the towns, which might be withstood, it is partly also towards

the west, which seems irresistible. The men of the east have been smitten with the western fever, and the stream of life in Canada is ever getting stronger westward. Between 1901 and 1906, no fewer than 166,611 eastern Canadians went west to the plains. We feel that while a Scotchman might with advantage settle in the eastern provinces, he would ultimately go with the stream. This movement will not last forever. The west is to be filled up, and in that day the east will have her chance. This much, however, may be said for settlement in the east even now. The fruit-grower for whom wheat-growing has no fascination, might settle, for example, either in the Annapolis valley or in the Niagara peninsula. If he has a few hundred pounds, he could get agricultural land and himself turn it into a fruit garden. If he has a few thousand pounds, he could buy planted out land. But he should do neither without first making the most exhaustive inquiry possible on the spot. He must needs also be an expert, with a scientific knowledge of soil cultivation and fruit culture, for the fruit-growers of Nova Scotia and Ontario, know their business well. It might also be an advantage, although many Canadians deny this, if he knew dairying as well as fruit-growing, and combined these branches of agriculture. Their conjunction would help him to keep up the fertility of the soil, which is difficult where no stock is kept and where no manure is available.

THE CALL OF THE WEST.

It is to the west we would particularly direct the attention of the intending emigrant. There is room for him there, although emigrants are pouring in. Between 1901 and 1907, 530,895 emigrants went to the Northwest provinces. It is quite a mistake, however, to suppose that everyone will succeed in the west, though there are few kinds of farming more simple than wheat farming. There are men who will not succeed anywhere, men who will always be hewers of wood and drawers of water. If a man has no ambition and no ability to be anything else than an agricultural labourer, Canada is not the place for him. He may have more wages while he is working than he would have here, but he will have less regular employment. He will have longer hours during the summer months, and, everything considered, he will not be better off in Canada than in Scotland. But if a man has ambition and ability, if he is determined, having as a ploughman placed his foot on the lowest rung of the ladder to reach the top as an occupying owner, Canada is emphatically the place for him. It offers the opportunity to succeed to all those who can, and it welcomes with outstretched arms the man, who, having counted the cost, has decided to avail himself of the opportunity.

Now, a man, after having gained experience of Canadian farming as a hired hand, may lease land. Tenancy has

always begun in this new land of occupying owners. We even get a glimpse now and then of the absentee landlord. If the settler decides, in the first place, to lease, he will enter into an agreement with the owner of a farm, who for some reason is not himself working it. The owner usually supplies part of the capital. The tenant supplies the rest and manages the farm. From profit is divided between the two in the proportions agreed on. Whatever may be said of this system of tenancy as part of the rural economy of Canada, there is no doubt that it affords a working man a good opportunity, while gaining experience, of making money to enable him either to homestead or to purchase.

HOMESTEAD.

But the settler may prefer at the outset to farm his own land. If his means are limited, he will be forced to homestead, that is, take up 160 acres of land, which the government is willing to give for nothing, provided he pays a registration fee of ten dollars, and lives six months every year for three years on his homestead, and breaks up thirty acres, of which 20 acres must be cropped. Now, this seems an easy way to become an occupying owner, but it is not so easy as it seems. A settler, who is unmarried, or who has left his wife at home, for a pioneer's life in the west is no life for a woman, may do this without much money, provided he is of the stuff pioneers are made of, and is willing to settle on a farm in a district, where there is no schoolmaster, and no doctor, and no railway, and has resolved to accept the rigours of a Canadian winter, and all the hardships and all the loneliness that go to make up a pioneer's life. He may live on his farm for six months every year for three years, breaking up the necessary thirty acres by contract, or otherwise, finding what work he can in the winter to help to live and face another summer on his farm, thus keeping the wolf from the door while fulfilling the conditions of his land grant. But such a course is beset with innumerable difficulties. It is not easy thus to work one self into a farm. One-fourth of all those, many of whom, however, were not ploughmen, who have tried it in Canada have given it up.

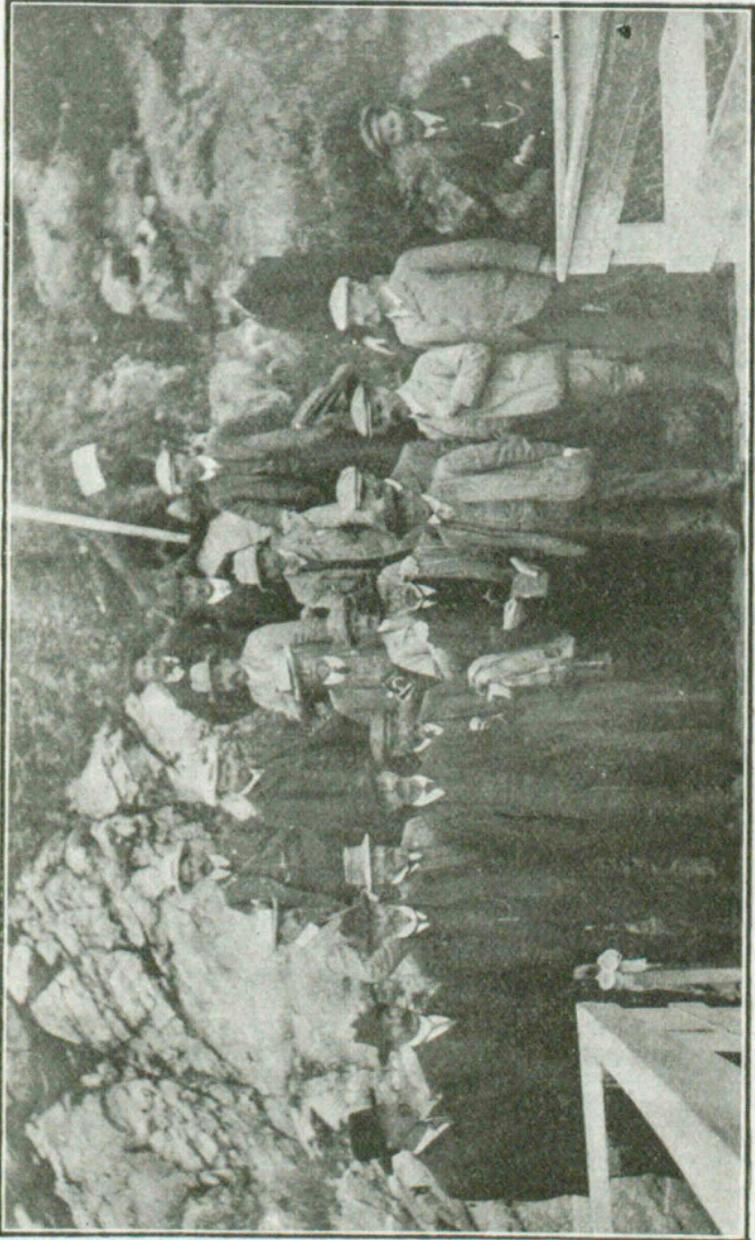
PURCHASE.

For the ordinary man, who does not care to be on the frontier of civilization, fighting nature at every step for a foothold, it seems to us better that he should remain a hired hand or a tenant farmer till he has made £400 or £500. With this money he could purchase a farm not very far from a railway station in a partially settled district. Thousands of such farms are in the market. Many of them can be got in good districts at from 10 to 15 dollars an acre. The price payable one-fifth on purchase and, the other four-fifths by

four equal yearly instalments, with interest at 6 per cent on the unpaid balance. A man deciding to adopt this course will have hard enough work and will have to exercise the strictest economy in spending his money, but it will be trifling compared with the work of the lonely homesteader. It will be lightened by the comforts and the social intercourse of a partially settled district. There is rich reward for such a man, and for the homesteader too if he perseveres unto the end. There is independence; there is comfort and plenty; there has sometimes been, and there may yet be, great wealth.

A SCOTCH COLONY.

It were worth doing to make the pathway of the Scotch farmer labourer to a homestead of his own in Canada a little easier. It might be done with advantage to the mother country and the colony, and with profit to those who did it. Other countries are doing it for their people. We might do it for ours. It means the floatation of a company on business lines. No other proposition is worth considering. Thousands of acres are available in different parts of Canada for such a purpose. The policy of the company would be two-fold. It would, in the first place, be a farming company. The farm would be worked on such an extensive scale that it could afford to engage ploughmen, not for eight months, but for twelve months every year. Its ploughmen would be drawn from Scotland and good wages could be paid to good men. Scotch ploughmen would feel in going to Canada they were going to serve men who had at home a reputation to sustain for fair dealing. Unless we are greatly mistaken, the company, if properly managed, would make handsome profits from its farming operations. But it would have another, and an equally, if not more, profitable branch of business. It would have its colonization scheme. Its policy in this connection would be to settle Scotchmen on part of its land in colonies so far as that was possible. Its own farm servants would have the first claim. The company would break up the ground for them by contract and work it for wages till they were ready financially to work it for themselves. Similar facilities would be given to other Scotch settlers. Unless all reports are false this should be a profitable part of its business, for land in Canada, notwithstanding the recent depression, is rising in price, and the company need neither work for less than the current rate of wages nor sell land at less than the market value. Settlers would pay for the land by instalments spread over a period of years, which is in fact the system at present in vogue in Canada. Interest would run on the unpaid balance at current rates. This system of payment, which is advantageous to the settler, would be equally advantageous to a sound company, because it would borrow money at home for 4 per cent, on which it would be paid in Canada 6 per cent, which is the current Canadian rates. The company would assure



Commission at Harrison Springs near Agassiz, B. C.

the settler that when bad years came it would stand by them instead of forcing them to sell out at a loss. There is undoubtedly a great future for such a company, great looked at from a financial point of view, and greater looked at from a national and imperial point of view.

THE DAIRYMAN'S AND THE MARKET GARDENER'S CHANCE.

So much for the emigrant who particularly stands in need of help and guidance. The west also opens up possibilities to those comparatively well-to-do dairy farmers and market gardeners who are having some difficulty in making much money at home. Their promised land is not on the bald-headed prairie, but as close as they can get to the habitation of men in the new and rising towns of the west, where cows are cheap and feed is cheap, and where milking machines will get over the labour difficulty till increase of population otherwise solves it. In these centres there is the hope of an ever-increasing demand for dairy and market garden produce, at exceedingly good prices. Nowhere is there a better chance for the dairyman and the market gardener. But they too must be wary. There are western towns which have shot up almost like a rocket and may come down like a stick. It would not be safe for the dairyman and the market gardener to get in beside them. There are other towns, however, which have come to stay, and their development is only a matter of time, and in some cases, a very short time. To differentiate, the dairyman and market gardener must do one of two things. They must either go as hired hands or they must, if they have the necessary means, make a prolonged stay in Canada and find out for themselves the district best suited for their particular trade.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Beyond the western provinces there is British Columbia. It is a goodly land too, with fine climate, which draws men from the western prairie in the evening time of their days when they have extracted from it a competence. But it is a much boomed land. The fame of British Columbia, particularly as a fruit-growing country, has reached sometimes, in the language of exaggeration, to the ends of the earth. Possibly, nowhere is there need for more care on the part of the emigrant than here, for land is selling at almost fabulous prices, and that too in districts where the possibilities of soil and climate have not yet been tested.

The settler in this far-western land has certain undoubted advantages. The climate and the soil are usually all that can be desired. The growth is amazing. We have seen timothy six feet high, and clover more than knee deep. We have seen apple trees, which grew five feet in a single year,

laden with fruit until they had to be bolted together with iron bolts to keep them from splitting. There is a good market for all this produce, and though the fruit-growers of British Columbia are catering for the distant British market, this does not seem to be necessary. They have over the mountains the western prairie, and it will be an ever-increasing market. But the settler in British Columbia has difficulties to contend with. The country is a mountainous country, and the suitable land is exceedingly limited. Much of the land is heavily timbered, and has to be cleared at very considerable expense before farming operations can be commenced. The wheat grower may grow wheat a long way from a railway station. Transport, on the other hand, is indispensable to the fruit trade, and transportation is one of the real difficulties in British Columbia. The fruit-grower is thus forced either to confine himself to land in the immediate vicinity of a railway or go into a fruit district already developed. In both cases land sells at exorbitant prices. There is even more need here, in some respects, for settlement on the colony system than there is on the prairie, because co-operation and transport facilities are of the essence of fruit-growing, and they would be the immediate and natural outcome of a colonization scheme. But there are more difficulties. The initial expenses would be much greater. More capital would be tied up for a longer period of time. The scheme would take a generation to work out unless the settlers were monied men. But it could be done. Some thousands of acres could be got outside the present fruit districts at a comparatively low figure. A colonizing company could, with a steam stumper, clear four or five acres on each holding. It could erect a cottage for each settler. It could do both at very much less cost than the settler could do himself. The difference in the cost of clearing and building would represent a very good profit to the company and would not increase the price of the holding to the settler. Such a work is worth doing among the mountains of British Columbia as well as on the plains of the Northwest. It would constitute another link in the long chain that will in the years to come help to bind together the far scattered portions of our world-wide empire.

LETTERS FROM SATISFIED SETTLERS.

Interesting and valuable as may be the report of all persons, who have journeyed through Canada, with the object of studying conditions there, still to one thinking of taking up his home in the Dominion, nothing can equal in interest, the report of settlers who have already gone there. Their stories are of actual experience. What they have undergone in adapting themselves to Canadian conditions future emigrants will likely also undergo. What they have achieved others can achieve. For that reason their statements are interesting and worthy of consideration. The following letters taken from among the many sent to the Immigration Branch of the Interior Department at Ottawa, Canada by

satisfied settlers may be taken as samples of the expression of opinion of the great bulk of the thousands of British immigrants who yearly take up their home in Canada. The letters are published exactly as received.

Moosomin, Sask., Jan. 11, 1909.

SIR,—I came from Garton-on-the-Wolds, Yorkshire, and arrived in Canada May 15, 1884. I am well satisfied with my prospects in this country. I have been engaged in farming since 1884, and have been, I think, fairly successful. I may say that when I landed here I was almost entirely without means. I sold my farm of 640 acres about a year ago, and am now living retired in very comfortable circumstances.

I certainly would advise British agriculturists to come to this country, preferably those who have had practical experience in the agricultural districts of England and Scotland.

My advice to new-comers would be to work on a farm for one season to enable them to get an idea of the methods adopted in this country, and also to give them experience as to the selection of a district wherein to begin operations for themselves. But, after all, I would like to say to the farmer and farm labourers, of the old country that there never was a time as good as the present for coming to Canada. The man with a little capital can either homestead or buy an improved farm, and make money right from the start; or the man without means can get a free grant of 160 acres, and will have no difficulty in getting work part of the time at good wages, without going far away from his own homestead.

Yours truly,

(Sgd.) WILLIAM WAINES.

Chauvin, Alta., Jan. 26, 1909.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to yours, to hand, dated December, I am pleased to give you a small account of my experience here. I am a farmer's son and came from Northamptonshire. I sailed from Liverpool, May 3, 1906, arrived here May 20, and filed on this quarter May 21, which was then 55 miles from town. I hired myself out for \$25 per month, with the understanding that the man was to haul to my homestead everything needful on the same, help build a house and dig a well. Also hired him to break me 30 acres, and put up 18 tons of hay, and I came with him in the summer to do it. After that I was working around until the end of October, when I came to my homestead where I have been living since that time, with the exception of a few weeks in the summer, during which time I was out breaking for other boys, earning from 6 to 7 dollars per day, with my four oxen. In the meantime, I have taken 2 crops off, first 30 acres realizing \$12 per acre, second, 37 acres, at \$14 per acre. I have 60 acres now under cultivation and all ready for seed



Corn at Guelph, Ont.

in the spring, my quarter is fenced, good buildings, all machines I require, ten head of cattle besides my oxen. I started with \$600, but have had two bits of hard luck for my house was burnt down with everything in it which was worth \$300, and a man last January ran off with \$280, which I don't suppose I shall ever get. This country is, in my opinion, very healthy, and a good field for young men now in the British Isles, who wish to better their circumstances. I myself have never regretted the day I left home, although I was very comfortable there, but had such a great desire to see this country. I intend going home for a trip next fall, if I have a good harvest, and I shall do my best to bring some of my friends back.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) A. PERKINS.

P.S.—I am now $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from town.

File Hills, Sask., Feb. 3, 1909.

SIR,—I received your letter asking me to give my opinion of this country, and my experience in it since my arrival. I give the information gladly, and hope that it may help to induce the right class of emigrants to come to this country.

I am a Scotchman; but went to Ireland as head game keeper and general manager to the late Sir James Musgrove who owned a large estate in the west of County Donegal, and held that position for thirty years, giving up my post to emigrate to Canada.

From twenty to a hundred men were employed in making drains and roads and in sub-soiling land. The wages they earned was 1s. 6d. per day, and they had to board themselves out of that.

This is a class of people who I firmly believe would succeed in this country if they would take up land, as they are industrious, fond of land, and are not inclined to be extravagant.

I arrived at File Hills in the end of March, 1905, and the first thing I did was to buy two good milk cows at the calving and a horse and mare. I then commenced to build a log-house 30 feet by 14 feet inside, and two storeys high with a lean to kitchen at back, and soon had a good comfortable dwelling. I then built stables for cattle.

In the fall I bought ten of the best yearling heifers I could get and a few steers. The total outlay was about \$700. From that number of stock I have now 50 head of cattle and 5 horses, and if all goes well I should have another 20 calves and two colts this spring. I think any one should be satisfied with that increase.

I milked all my best cows, and the proceeds of butter practically paid the household expenses for the last two years. Last year I made nearly \$400 off butter, and I expect

to make as much this year, and besides I hope to sell 10 steers at an average price of \$40 a head.

I am well satisfied with the progress I have made and I may say that I am now independent as my income is now much greater than the expenditure. I have 160 acres of good grazing and hay land and as practically none of the company lands are occupied there is plenty of grazing for cattle on every side of me.

I estimate the value of my farm, stock, buildings, &c., now to be \$5,000. I have done no cropping except a few acres of oats for feed and the kitchen garden, but I intend to go in more for cropping in future. The soil is rich and grows heavy crops.

The climate is very healthy. I have enjoyed better health since coming to Canada than I had for many years before leaving the old country. Wages in this part of the country range from \$1.50 to \$2 per day with board and occasionally as high as \$2.50.

I am, yours truly,

(Sgd.) JOS. WATSON.

Zealandia, Sask., Jan. 18, 1909.

SIR,—I belonged to Stonehaven, Kincardineshire, Scotland, came out here in June, 1905. I used to work on a farm in Auchinblae district on Kennell and Chapelton farm; average wages about £10 to £20. I arrived at Indian Head, Saskatchewan and worked on a threshing rig that year receiving \$1.75 a day and then came up here, took a homestead and stayed here ever since. I landed out on my land with about \$300 or £60, built a small shack, bought a team of horses, part on time, worked around here doing ploughing for new settlers the first summer to pay for the horses. I now own five all paid for, all the necessary implements to work a farm, I have 100 acres ready for crop this spring. I could never have had an acre in Scotland in crop let alone, own the land which is worth \$20 or £4 and acre. I am 7 miles from town and a new railroad from Saskatoon to Calgary. I would not take £700 for my rights to-day. I find there are many here just the same. I will put a word for my brother, he has done better than me. He came here with \$100 and team of oxen, now he has 5 horses and 130 acres for crop this spring. We were well known in Rickarton, Stonehaven, as my father has a farm there. My opinion of this country is to all get hold of land, work hard for two or three years, to start on, then all is right.

I am,

(Sgd.) J. G. LINDSAY.

Hespeler, Ont., Jan. 29, 1909.

DEAR SIR,—Having heard you are pleased to hear from emigrants who have passed through any of the government agencies, I would like to say that no one who is willing to

work at farm labour, for a time at least, need be afraid of coming to Canada, which I consider holds opportunities for young men not to be had elsewhere. I came to Canada in May, 1908, from Scotland. Not finding work at my trade (cabinet-making), I applied to Mr. G. Whitelaw, Guelph, who put me the same day on a farm. I worked there all summer and then found employment at my own trade at which I am presently engaged. I had £7 when I landed. Any one with the necessary capital would do well to go in for farming. Old country farm hands willing to adopt Canadian methods of farming could certainly do better here than at home. Personally, I am better off here than I was in Scotland. I also consider the government laws relative to immigration both needful and necessary.

I am, yours truly,

(Sgd.) DAVID CHRISTIE.

St. Andrews, Man., Jan. 18, 1909.

SIR,—Regarding my experience and prospects in this country, I think the country is all right, at least I find it so, and I find the farm work in this country is far easier than where I came from. I struck a pretty good place in the Pipestone district, I only worked there 5 months but I could have stayed long enough but they did not need a man all winter, so I left and came back to Winnipeg and started to drive a team for the Park's Board, and stayed at that for 2 years at 50 dollars a month, and left to go on this place which I have rented. I have been on it 2 years, it is not wheat-growing, it is better adapted for pig-raising and growing potatoes. As I have been doing the latter, I had a good fair crop of potatoes a year ago, but they failed me this year as well as a good many more, and it was pretty hard to find the cause, but I hope we will do better by another year with brighter prospects and brighter trade. I think a man with a little bit of capital and a bit of grit can do far better here than in Scotland, that is to say, if he is fond of farming, but unless he is that, he had better not come out here. I came from Aberdeenshire, where I was born and my parents are still there. I started out to work at farm work at the age of 12 years, and worked at that for 12 years. My wages used to vary from £17 to £20 for six months with board, but not washing. And then I thought I would like to work in the city so I went to Dundee to work with Lindsey & Low, in their flour store for 1 year, and left that and started to work for Dundee City Tramway, and worked with them for 3 years, my wages there was 24 shillings a week, to start with motoring, and rose to 28 shillings, so I thought I could better myself by coming out here, and I've never regret it yet. I sailed on 30th of April, 1904, on the *Buenos Ayrian*, the Allan line, from Glasgow, Scotland, and landed in Winnipeg on the 17th of May with 500 dollars. Of course my experience on that date is hardly worth mentioning as I had a friend meeting me at the sta-

tion who had been in the country 1 year before I came, so I am just speaking as I find it. A man has got a little hardship to endure for a year or two, but that is nothing if a man can better his position as I think any right sensible man can do if he wants.

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) JAS. SIMPSON.

Yorkton, Sask., Jan. 28, 1909.

SIR,—I received your letter of December. I came from the Orkney Isles of Scotland, 1905, and landed in Yorkton on the 23rd of July. I was raised on the farm and followed farming all my life, wages in Orkney range from sixteen pounds to twenty-five pounds per year. For farm labourers my experience here is this, that a farm labourer can make double the wages in Canada, and there is far more chance for a young man to rise in this country than it is in the old country. My present employment is farming, and I would advise any one that is following farm work to come to this country if they want to better themselves. My opinion of this country is this, that a poor man, if he is in good health, and is an honest worker, will succeed. It is better for any one coming to have \$25 or \$50 in their pocket for fear they might not strike a job on arrival. Of course the more they have the better they can start.

The part of the Isles I came from was Finstown.

Yours truly,

(Sgd.) WM. L. CORRIE.

Eglinton P.O., Toronto, Ont., Dec. 1, 1908.

DEAR SIR,—In answer to your letter asking how I like Canada. I like it very much. I received very good treatment at your hands. My experience of the country is that if a person is willing to work he will get on.

Your truly,

(Sgd.) J. RUDD.

Hornby, Ont., Jan. 9, 1909.

SIR,—Its time I should thank you for sending me to Mark J. Bussells, Honly, which place you sent me two years ago, and where I left a few days ago with sufficient money saved to start business. I cannot understand why men complain of farmer's work. A man is only asked to do as his master does, he has the same rights in the house; the same table, good beds, the best of food, and above all respected, which he would not have in England. I say any man that cannot get on with a farmer isn't worth being called a man. A farmer is a good industrious honest and respectable man. They say they have to work too hard, well I never worked

a day in my life for a master until I came to Canada, and now, I have worked 7 seasons with several and I say that I never met one yet who could, or would work me too hard. They are too human, and what's more they are doing the same work themselves, and what more can any fair thinking man want? I am ashamed at the sight of strong able fellows walking the streets of Toronto living on charity and locking for work, and afraid to find it. Again I thank you for your good and attentive work to fellows who are worth being called men.

I am, Sir,
Yours respectfully,

(Sgd.) JOHN RYAN.

P.S.—If you see a good industrious man who would work please direct him to John M. J. Bussell, Honly, where I have just left and to whom I can recommend any industrious men.

Brandon, Man., Nov. 11, 1908.

SIR,—This is an answer to your letter. I was an experienced farm hand when I came to this country. I have not had much farming experience in this country. But as far as I am concerned this is a much better country for farming than the old country. It is a fine, healthy climate, I am well satisfied with what I have already experienced of the country. I have had a little conversation with one or two who came over on the same boat as myself and they seem pretty well satisfied too. Any young man who is able and willing to work need not be out of work long for there is plenty of all kinds of work in this country.

I remain,
Yours respectfully,

(Sgd.) JOHN EAST.

Eglinton, Ont., Dec. 20, 1908.

DEAR SIR,—I will now take the opportunity of thanking you for your kindness shown me on reaching Canada, also for your help in procuring for me the situation I now hold, arriving here on the 16th of July, through your aid I was able to start work on the 19th, just 3 days after my arrival and just the kind of work I wanted. As by profession I am a gardener. I must say, I think the Canadian methods of growing for markets are excellent and there are good chances for success if a man will use his wits and go the right way to work.

I like Canada very well as a country to live in and I must say that I have never been in better health than at present. Trusting that I may still meet with success.

Believe me to be,
Yours truly,

(Sgd.) T. GRESWELL.

Elginton, Ont., Dec. 21, 1908.

SIR,—In answer to your letter of the 10th inst., asking how I like Canada I beg to state that I cannot express to you how I like the country to live in, I am more than delighted with it, and will do my best to fetch my friends out here. As regards farming I wish that I had followed it up years ago. I am most grateful for your kindness to me when I landed here and had nowhere to go. I sincerely think that every person landing here should pass through the hands of an agent, sooner than go among strangers hoping that this will meet will meet with your approval, I beg to remain,

Respectfully,

(Sgd.) G. HURRELL.

Kendall, Clarke P.O., Ont.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to letter which I received, and glad to think you take so much interest in the emigrants, and I might say that if every emigrant of all nations, got on so well as I have done, they would do very well, and I believe become good useful fellows in this country. The first place you wanted to know the locality of the old country of which I came, well I came from Peterborough, England, and was mostly in the milk business, as milkman, receiving from 18 shillings to 20 shillings a week, and board myself with same. I came to Bowmanville on the 13th of March, 1907, and had about 1 pound in pocket on my arrival, and since then I have received up to the last fall, 1908, about 200 dollars for 1 year and 8 months at Mr. J. W. Hoskins, Bowmanville, Ont. My opinion of Canada is, I think it a very nice country and it contains some very nice people, and I am thinking of going home next fall or rather at Christmas, and will be back again in the next spring, 1910, to bring my wife out with me, and try and settle down as a Canadian, and work my way up as a farmer of my own business, as a great many emigrants have done in the last 30 and 40 years. I like farm work and mean to stick to it, as it is the best and quickest way to make money, and get along and not want for anything, and thanking you for your interest and you will find I have a new home, and a very nice home and a good place, Good-bye,

Yours truly,

(Sgd.) FREDK. CROWSON.

Sweetsburg, Que., Jan. 24, 1909.

DEAR SIR,—I have at last found time to answer your letter. After working with Mr. J. Goulb for 13 months, I went with L. Goulb for a couple of months. When I went with Mr. J. Goulb, it was the first time I had ever been on a farm, I could not milk; I could not plough or mow or anything. I hired out for \$100 a year and gradually picked things up. Out of my \$100, I sent my mother home 42 dollars, who is

struggling to make ends meet with six children. My father who was a cripple died a few months before I came to Canada. My trade or calling was bricklayer's labourer, and I received 12 cents an hour, but work was so scarce that I was in one week and out 4 weeks, so I began to look around and think awhile and my best plan was to come out here and try my luck. Since I have been out here I have learned to plough and milk, and I have now hired out to Mr. C. Fuller for \$130 a year, next year I shall get \$180 or \$200, and so on till I receive \$1.50 to \$2 a day, all of which I must state board is found. I did not have any money when I came to this country, having lost what I did have on my way from Portsmouth to London. I arrived in Montreal on July 14, 1907, and I think that if others were to take the same course I have they would find it a great benefit to them.

I am, yours truly,

(Sgd.) GEO. H. CLEVERBY.

Bradford, Ont., January 20, 1909.

Mr. W. D. SCOTT.

DEAR SIR,—I, the undersigned, have been requested by your local agent, Mr. Jermyn, for an opinion of Canadian agricultural work and the opportunities it affords to intending immigrants. I came out from England about 12 months ago, just as a speculation, to see the difference in Canada and English farming and farm labour and wages in general. I think this is a great country for the average labouring man who is not afraid of work.

The condition of the soil and pasture are beyond my expectation, the soil being rich and easy of working makes it possible to grow good crops of grain and roots; in fact, larger crops than I ever saw in the old country. Which means that farming in Canada is quite a success for the man who wishes to speculate; and as for immigrants of the right class, there is every opportunity for them, through the government agents, who willingly place them in situations at the best advantage for wages, &c., as I have known your local agent do in scores of cases.

The wages are much higher than the farmers at home pay, as, for instance, a man of little or no knowledge is able to get from \$15 to \$18 per month, and the experienced man, \$25 to \$28 per month and board and lodging. To all intending immigrants, I say make for Canada, the land of privileges and the home of the future.

(Sgd.) E. LEWIS,

formerly of Canarnonshire, South Wales.

Treherne, Man. Jan. 24, 1909.

SIR,—I came from Cloghog Cross, Maglen Co., Armagh Ireland, I lived with a gentleman farmer for 5½ years, and received £7 for the first six months, and got a raise of wages till



Beside our private Car.

I had £10 for the half year. There came a friend from Manitoba, and he was telling me the good place it was, and so I made up my mind to come as soon as my time was up. I sailed from Derry on the 9th of June, 1905, and arrived in Winnipeg on the 20th, and had a good passage out here. I started to work 2 days after, and got \$100 for the 6 months, that is £20. I got \$10 a month for the winter, that is £2; following two summers I got \$200 for 8 months, and winter \$10 a month. Last summer, I got \$210 for 7 months; at present, I am getting \$55 for 4½ months. I like the country well, and I think it is the best place for a young man to come to who wants to make a home for himself. It is a farming country, and any one that is brought up on a farm knows what farm life is. They do more with horses and have more machinery than in the old country. Some will say, how do they give such good wages? On the farm here, a man does a lot more work, as the land is much easier laboured, and a man drives four horses on the plough, seeder, harrow and binder. I can plough 5 acres a day, seed from 18 to 20, and cut 20 acres a day. You get up at 5 a.m., feed, clean and harness your horses, clean out the stable, get breakfast, be ready to go to the field at 7; stop at 12 for dinner, start at 2 again and work to 6. Some people think that when they come to this country that they get money for the lifting, but they don't. They are all large farmers here. The man I worked for last summer had 320 acres of land; he had 200 acres of crop, and two of us put it in and cut it, with two extra men to stook. The farm help is well treated here, and I am well pleased with the country and people that I have met so far.

Yours truly,

(Sgd.) W. J. McILVEEN.

Yellow Grass, Sask., Jan. 8, 1909.

DEAR SIR,—I received your letter asking the name of the place I belonged in the old country. It was Burrelton, Perthshire, Scotland. I landed in Winnipeg on 24th July, 1907. I was a carpenter, or joiner, as it is called there. All the wages that I earned was one pound (\$5). My apprenticeship was just out when I sailed to this country along with another friend. All the money I had in my possession was two shillings (48c.). We went to the immigration hall where we stayed all night and then got our jobs fixed on farming with a German at Osage, for which I received \$100 for four months. After my time was in I went further west to Yellow Grass where I landed for work with another German for the wages, 240 dollars, for one year. I am still in the same place where I am staying for 30 dollars a month for this year. I think I have got on fairly well, although my companion took ill with the cold weather and went back home. I like this country better than where I came from, and also I am going homesteading this spring because I think it is the quickest way in making money. This is by

far the healthiest country. I have never lost one hour's work through sickness or anything else as long as I have been here. I also wonder at so many young men going around at home and can't get work. I am sure there is plenty of work to be got here for those who are willing to put their hands to it. I can strike a job with any of my neighbours at any time I like. That is about all I can say as I have not been much travelled. I will draw this scrawl to an end, hoping it will do some good, I remain,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) HUGH GRAY.

Saltcoats, Sask., Jan. 8, 1909.

DEAR SIR,—It gives me great pleasure to inform you that I have been farming in Canada for 21 years; when I came here I had no money and was \$800 in debt to the Old Commercial Company. I feel glad that I came to Canada. The wages at present is about 50 pounds a year, with board and washing, for good farm hands; poor workmen are not wanted at any wages. If a good farm hand is careful here he can be his own master in four years with 160 acres of good land for a farm. All he pays is two pounds for entry fee to the government, his savings in four years will be sufficient to get him what he wants to start his own farm. Canada is very healthy. To all whom this letter may concern, it is written by Charles Ritchie who was farm manager for Col. Balfour Berstan, Kirkwall, Orkney, from 1873 up to 1888.

(Sgd.) CHARLES RITCHIE.

Birch Hills, Sask., Dec. 19, 1908.

DEAR SIR,—Your letter of the 14th inst. at hand, and in reply will say that I am very pleased with the country, and think this the best place for a man with limited capital. We are getting along splendidly. The average crop is as good here as you would get on land that you would pay as high as one hundred dollars per acre for in some countries. There are fine markets for all kinds of products, and the railroads are growing rapidly all over the country. Any person wishing information regarding northwestern Canada and its farming possibilities, we will be pleased to give the same.

Yours truly,

(Sgd.) G. W. BARRS.

Walkerton, Ont., Jan. 13, 1909.

W. D. SCOTT,

Superintendent of Immigration,
Ottawa, Ont.

DEAR SIR,—I am in receipt of your letter of December 7, 1908, desiring information regarding my experience in Canada.

I am a native of the Laggan of Cantyre, Argyleshire, Scotland. I was raised on a farm and came to Canada in 1857. I had no stated wages, but plenty to eat and drink. Got to Galt by rail, where I heard that Walkerton was to be the county town of the county of Bruce, so I walked from Galt to Walkerton via Durham, supposed to be sixty or seventy miles.

Walkerton lies in a hollow surrounded by hills. There was no town then, only a few shacks on the east side of the river, a post office, grist mill, and a log tavern on the west side, rather discouraging after the long walk. However, I found out that a man that is willing to work will soon find friends in Canada.

When I reached the hill where I could see the hollow where Walkerton was supposed to be, I had just one sixpence, or, as it was called here, a york-shilling.

The first man I met was Mr. McLean, the postmaster, a countryman of my own. He is still living and is postmaster, though ninety-one years of age. We were soon at home together.

The postmaster owned a hundred acres near the town with some clearing on it, so I rented that and was soon into one thing and another. Got a man to cut cordwood, fell in with a hewer, took out square timber for town building, and big square timber for shipment, floated it down the Saugeen river, built a lime kiln and burnt lime, bought town lots, got out timber and logs, built houses, worked what was cleared on the farm and was on the lookout for other jobs. I got a contract to carry the mails from Walkerton to Elora.

In 1869 I traded my property in Walkerton for two hundred acres and a grist and saw-mill in the township of Culross, valued at \$15,500, mine in Walkerton at \$6,000. I was deputy reeve of Culross in 1870. I added another hundred acres to the two hundred and had it all cleared off in 1885.

My son now owns and runs the farm with greatly improved buildings, bank barns, straw and hay sheds, &c.

I live retired in Walkerton, and have been Deputy Reeve and Reeve and Mayor of the town.

My idea is that Canada is second to none for a man with common judgment and who is willing to work. He can earn from \$1.75 to \$2 per day. I have the honour to be,

Yours truly,

(Sgd.) ANDREW McLEAN.

Sudbury, Ont., January 3, 1909.

DEAR SIR,—You seem to like to have a true account of my experience since I came to Canada, and you shall have it with pleasure.

I was brought up in the County Donegal, Ireland, and started to work out when I was 13 years old. I hired with a farmer a few miles from home for six months, the wages I

received for that period was £3 10s., that would be equal to about 17 dollars. The year after I got that, I got 25 dollars for 6 months, the next year I got 35 for 6 months, and the next 40 or £8, that was the highest wages going for 6 months' period.

I went to Scotland. I worked there for about 2½ years, and did not save any money. I went back home to the little farm for another while. I worked around home for a while until I gathered up enough to pay my passage to Canada, and I think that was a lucky day for me. I landed in Montreal about May 2, 1905. I did not have 50 cents on my arrival, but I was not there one day till I could have 50 dollars if I wanted to. I met with some old country people and they lent me all the money I wanted, which I paid back in a short time. I worked there in a sugar refinery at \$1.80 per day, until July 20, 1905, then I went to seek employment in the hay fields. I landed in Sudbury on Sunday and on Monday I went to work here where I had 30 dollars per month and board to December, 1907. Then my boss wanted to sell me his farm, which he did on easy terms, and there is everything a man wants on a farm here. The farm includes 160 acres, over 100 cleared and in good shape for cropping, 2 teams, over 20 head of cattle, about 30 pigs, geese, turkeys and chickens, goats, 2 mowers, two rakes, 1 binder, manure spreader, seeders, in fact everything a man could wish for, and I expect in four years more to be independent, so I think I succeeded good since I came here, and I would advise everyone who is working on the old country for a poor living to come to Canada. I am getting all my brothers and sisters here this spring. Some people say the winters are so cold that you would freeze. That is nonsense, for I have been here four winters now and I didn't freeze yet, and I like the winter far better in this country than the old country, for it is nice, clear, frosty weather all the time, and I think Canada is the place for young men to come to for there is every chance for a sober man to get along and do well. Hoping that this letter will encourage some more people to come to Canada, I remain,

Yours truly,

(Sgd.) M. FRIEL.

W. D. SCOTT.

Waterford, Ont., Jan. 4, 1909.

DEAR SIR,—I left England on the 29th of March, 1906, and landed here on April 10 and started the same day at 10 dollars a month, being an inexperienced farm hand. That winter I got 15 dollars per month. The next year 200 dollars. A man can get 40 dollars a month in some parts when he is used to the work. I know some young fellows, who have got farms of their own out in the west ; they came out when I did. I think this is a fine country for a young man as he

has a chance to save money out here. The people are very good to Englishmen and easy to get acquainted with.

Yours,

(Sgd.) F. NEWMAN.

Late of Kettering, Northamptonshire, England.

Wallaceburg, Ont.

DEAR SIR,—I am writing my opinion of Canada for the sake of any who think of coming out here, and I must say that it is a good place. I came here two years ago from Wolverhampton and sailed from Liverpool to Boston on the steamer *Invernia*, on April 16, 1907. I came to Wallaceburg, Ontario, and I had not got much money when I came here. I got a job with a farmer for twelve months, and then I worked for another farmer for six months, and I must say that I was treated in the best way possible. I am now working about fifty acres on shares, that is, I pay one-third of the crops that is grown, but the cattle and pigs you raise for yourself. This is a good place for anybody who has a mind to work, but it is no good for any one coming who does not intend to work, they might as well stay where they are. There is plenty of room here and you can soon become your own master if you are willing to work, and there are plenty here who will help you. I cannot say more. Yours,

(Sgd.) THOMAS DAVIS.

Bloomfield, Ont., Dec. 14, 1908.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your letter of December I would say that I came from the county of Suffolk to Canada in May, 1907. I was engaged at farming ten years previous to coming; my wage was twelve shillings a week. I had nothing when I arrived. I hired to a farmer for seven months at twenty dollars per month and board. Then I sent for my wife and got another home started, and hired to same man for a year, at \$240, house, wood, pint of milk a day, and potatoes. When my time had expired I hired to a neighbour for \$275 a year, house, wood, quart of milk per day, potatoes and garden spot. I consider there are good opportunities in this country for good farm help, married or single.

Yours truly,

(Sgd.) HARRY MANN.

Arthur P.O., Ont., Dec. 19, 1908.

DEAR SIR,—In regard to your inquiries concerning my welfare since arriving in Canada I have great pleasure in giving my little experience. I landed in Canada three years ago with a small sum of money in my possession, enough to keep me for a short time. I went straight to work on a farm, as I thought that was the best means of saving all the money

I carried, and as I have since found out I did the very best thing possible. I have worked for English, Irish, Scotch and Dutch, and although some were not very desirable farmers to work with, I cannot complain of the way they treated me. Since coming out here I have banked quite a little sum of money and with 2 years more wages I hope to start on a farm for myself. I think this is a fine country in every respect, more particularly for those inclined for agriculture as they have good chances for success. I think the reasons we hear of poor people in the towns and cities is because they are too particular to go and work on a farm where if they only knew it they get good wages and lots of good food to eat. In conclusion I must say I think this is a fine country for any one not afraid of work ; any one that think they will pick up a fortune without working for it would be better not to come out here. Wishing all success to Canada.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) WILLIAM S. HARE.

Replies from Old Country Settlers to Questions about their Prosperity.

Too often when the department asks settlers from the old country for an account of their experiences in Canada, they confine their remarks to subjects which have very little interest for intending settlers. To overcome this, a number of circular letters were sent out to different localities, and the following interesting replies have been received :—

Name.—George Morrison.

Present address.—Hartney, Manitoba.

Last address in Scotland.—Tarves, Aberdeenshire.

Date of arrival in Canada.—August, 1884.

Are you satisfied with your prospects in Canada ?
Perfectly.

If you have engaged in agriculture, give some idea of your success, profits, etc. I am a farmer owning 800 acres of land. Had very little money in coming to Canada. Property now worth from \$25,000 to \$30,000, with some property in town.

Would you advise British agriculturists to come to Canada ? I would certainly advise young and strong men who are not afraid of work, or a little hardship to start with. With a little pluck, they will succeed.

Give any suggestions and advice you may have to offer to newcomers. Young men are apt to get discouraged when landing here. Not finding everything as expected, they at first resolve to go back home. Don't do that. Make up your mind to stay. The climate is perhaps a little more extreme than in the north of Scotland; but you

can become independent here, something you can never do at home, working as a farm hand. Young men having £100 or £150 can take up a homestead of 160 acres. They can get a start with that much, and do well.

Name.—John Lindsay.

Last address in Scotland.—Denhead of Grey, near Dundee.

Date of your arrival in Canada.—December 23, 1901.

Amount of wages you received with board. 1902, \$175; 1903, \$200; 1904 and 1905, half of crop put in on shares.

General remarks.—I would strongly advise Scotch ploughmen to come to Canada. I have loved the country and the people ever since I came. I don't think you could meet a more kind and generous people than the Canadian people. Since coming to this country, my father and mother have come out, and one of my sisters, who is now married.

I consider that Scotch ploughmen, with or without capital, will greatly improve their prospects by coming to Canada, financially and every other way.

(Sgd.) Rev. JOHN LINDSAY,
Rossburn, Man.

Name.—James Hardie.

Last address in Scotland.—Altyre, Forres.

Date of your arrival in Canada.—June 12, 1902.

Amount of wages you received with board. 1904, \$320.

Have you entered for a homestead? I have

Date of entry? May 9, 1907.

Improvements on homestead? Usual homestead improvements.

Have you bought or rented land? I rented a farm one year.

If so, give particulars and some idea of profits? I paid for four horses and implements to work same in that time, besides other expenses.

Value of your stock and implements? I value my stock and implements at about \$1,500.

Do you consider you have improved your prospects by coming to Canada? I have all kinds of good prospects here.

Would you advise Scotch ploughmen, without capital, to come to Canada? I do by all means.

(Sgd.) JAMES HARDIE,
Hartney, Man.

Name.—David Hunter.

Last address in Scotland.—Benthoul, Peter Culter, Aberdeen.

Date of your arrival in Canada.—April 1, 1904.

Amount of wages you received, with board, etc. 1904, \$225; 1905, \$240.

Have you entered for homestead ? Yes.

Date of entry ? October 20, 1905.

Improvements on homestead ? House, stables, well, 160 acres fenced, 30 acres under cultivation, cropped 30 acres oats, which yield 1,645 bushels, sold at 27 cents per bushel, realizing \$444. In all, my place has produced crop to the value of \$550.

Value of your stock and implements ? 4 horses, \$700 ; wagons, ploughs, seeder, sleighs, harrows, &c., \$300. Total value about, \$1,100.

Do you consider you have improved your prospects by coming to Canada ? Yes.

Would you advise Scotch ploughmen, without capital, to come to Canada ? Most certainly, yes.

General remarks. The above statement I have given is accurate. I may state I have completed my homestead duties, and made application for patent. To-day I consider my homestead, stock, implements, &c., worth \$4,500. When I arrived in Shoal Lake, Manitoba, April 7, 1904, I had \$9 in cash as my capital. I have stated this to give an idea that a man can work his way to independence in this country in a short time, which is nearly impossible now in the old country.

Hoping this statement is satisfactory.

(Sgd.) DAVID HUNTER,
Wadena, Sask.

Name.—Thos. J. Clark.

Address.—Virden, Man.

Last address in Scotland.—St. Boswells, Roxburgshire.

Date of arrival in Canada. 1882, when a boy, started on my own account in 1898.

Are you satisfied with your prospects in Canada ? I feel well satisfied.

If you have engaged in agriculture, give some idea of your success, profits, &c.? My profits, including increase of value in land, would show fully \$1,000 profit per annum.

Would you advise British agriculturists to come to Canada ? Yes, but preferably those with capital.

Give any suggestions and advice you may have to offer to newcomers. I would advise them to take a position on farm for the first season to get into the ways of the country.

Name.—John G. Butterfield.

Address.—Howick Farm, Tisdale, Sack.

Last address in Britain.—Redstead, Howick, Lesbury, R. S. Northumberland.

Date of arrival in Canada.—July 1, 1905.

Are you satisfied with your prospects in Canada ? Yes, quite satisfied.

If you have engaged in agriculture, give some idea of your success, profits, &c. I came into this district in April, 1906, and the first settler in this township. I have

now 250 acres cleared and broken. In 1907, I had 160 acres in crop, and my oats yield was 103 bushels per acre. The wheat was also an extra heavy crop.

Would you advise British agriculturists to come to Canada? I shall certainly advise British agriculturists to come to Canada, where they can, with very little outlay, make a home for themselves, become owners of their land, and earn a much better livelihood than it is possible in England.

Give any suggestions and advice you may have to offer to newcomers. I would advise newcomers to look around a little before settling and to work for some farmer until they get accustomed to the ways of the country, for by so doing, they will save a lot of unnecessary expense in experimenting and finding out the peculiarities of a new country. Any one with a little capital could not do better than take up land in this locality, which is certainly adapted to mixed farming. All kinds of grain crops grow and yield abundantly; roots of every description also do well. This year I have seeded 8 acres to fall wheat, and if appearances go for anything, it certainly ought to be a success. I have wintered cattle outside, both last and this winter, with no other feed than the straw stacks to feed at, and a wind shelter for nights, which the cattle very seldom avail themselves of. If any immigrants come into this district, I shall be pleased to let them have the benefit of my advice.

Name.—Norman Morrison.

Address.—Beauchamp, Saskatchewan.

Last address in Britain.—Edinburg.

Date of arrival in Canada.—December 15, 1902.

Amount of wages you received, with board, in any of the following year. 1903, \$240; 1904, \$360; 1905, while I worked, \$30 per month.

Have you entered for a homestead? Yes.

Date of entry? May 23, 1904.

Improvements on homestead? 50 acres broken, 10 head of cattle, 5 oxen, 1 horse, house, stable, granary, and all machinery necessary for farm work.

Value of your stock and implements? Stock, \$700; implements, \$600.

Do you consider you have improved your prospects by coming to Canada? I have greatly improved my prospects.

Would you advise Scotch ploughmen, without capital, to come to Canada? Yes, certainly, if they are willing to work.

General remarks.—My capital, when I landed at Shoal Lake, Manitoba, was \$25. I may say I am by no means rich now, but I am comfortably off and have a home of my own. Although I came to Canada from Edinburgh, and was not then farming, I worked as a ploughman in Invernesshire, near Beaully, and Fort George, for some years.

Name.—Thomas O'Donnell.

Address.—Bedchonzie, Saskatchewan.

Last address in Scotland.—Inverness.

Date of arrival in Canada.—June 20, 1903.

Amount of wages you received, with board, in any of following years: 1903, \$200; then from \$25 to \$50 per month.

Have you entered for a homestead? Yes.

Date of entry? April 18, 1905.

Improvements on homestead? Completed, but residential duties do not end till June, 1909.

Value of your stock and implements? \$636.

Do you consider you have improved your prospects by coming to Canada? Yes.

Would you advise Scotch ploughmen, without capital, to come to Canada? Yes, but a little capital is advantageous.

General remarks.—I only wish I had come to Canada years ago.

Name.—John Kidd.

Address.—Queenstown, Alberta.

Last address in Scotland.—Humbie Mill, East Lothian.

Date of your arrival in Canada.—June, 1903.

Amount of wages you received, with board, in any of the following years: 1903, \$225; 1904, \$300; 1905, \$300.

Have you entered for a homestead? Yes.

Date of entry? November 10, 1905.

Improvements of homestead? Worth \$500, also 14 head of horses, and 30 acres of land under cultivation.

Value of your stock and implements? \$800.

Do you consider you have improved your prospects by coming to Canada? I do.

Would you advise Scotch ploughmen, without capital, to come to Canada? I would.

General remarks.—The wages are better out here, and any one can start for himself in two or three years.

Name.—George R. Ralston.

Address.—Bullockville, Alta.

Last address in Britain.—Galston, Ayrshire.

Date of arrival in Canada.—April 2, 1906.

Are you satisfied with your prospects in Canada? Yes.

If you have engaged in agriculture, give some idea of your success, profits, &c. I bought an improved farm, and have been fairly successful. I cannot say definitely re profits, but consider I have kept well ahead all the time.

Would you advise British agriculturists to come to Canada? Yes, all classes, but more especially those with small capital; too much money or too little seems to pan out badly; get the happy medium class.

Give any suggestions and advice you may have to offer to newcomers. Do not invest capital too quickly. Get to know conditions and kind of work before homesteading. I have been three years here, and have just taken homestead and pre-emption.

NOTICE.

Immigrants going to or west of Winnipeg should apply for advice to J. Bruce Walker, Commissioner of Immigration there. Those going to Ontario to engage in farm work or domestic service should ask the booking agent from whom they purchase their tickets for a card of introduction to one of the Canadian Government Employment Agents, who will, without charge, secure a position for all new settlers desiring farm work. There are over one hundred of these agents in Ontario.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

The following information will be of interest to intending emigrants :—

CURRENCY.

In Canada all money is reckoned in dollars and cents (\$ c.) instead of pounds, shillings and pence (£ s. d.) as in the United Kingdom.

The unit is one cent and one hundred cents make one dollar. Twenty-five cents is therefore, one-quarter of a dollar and is usually referred to as 'a quarter,' fifty cents being 'a half.'

The Government of Canada issue coins of six values, one cent pieces which are of copper, and five, ten, twenty, twenty-five and fifty cent pieces of silver. In paper money they issue twenty-five cent, one, two and four dollars bill which are in every day use, besides bills for \$50, \$100, \$500, \$1,000 and \$5,000 which are used principally as tender between banks.

The chartered banks issue five, ten, twenty, fifty and one hundred dollar bills.

A mint has recently been established at Ottawa for the manufacture of gold currency. English gold and United States gold, however, circulates freely, and is always accepted at its face value.

For the purpose of making clear the relative values of Canadian and British coins or bills the following tables are given :—

1c. equal to.. ..	½d.	½d. equal to.. ..	1c.
2c. "	1d.	1d. "	2c.
5c. "	2½d.	3d. "	6c.
10c. "	5d.	6d. "	12c.
20c. "	9¾d.	1s. "	24c.
25c. "	1.0¼d.	2s. "	48c.
50c. "	2.0¾d.	2s. 6d. "	60c.
\$1.00 "	4s.1¼d.	4s. "	97c.
\$5.00 "	£1.0.6½	5s. "	\$1.21
\$10.00 "	£2.1.1¼	10s. "	\$2.43
\$20.00 "	£4.2.2¼	20s. "	\$4.86
\$50.00 "	£10.5.5¾	£1 "	\$4.86
\$100.00 "	£20.10.11½	£5 "	\$24.33

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT AGENTS.

Intending emigrants would do well, before deciding upon the particular locality to which to go, to consult one of the Canadian Government Agents in the United Kingdom, who will without charge, gladly give, either personally or by letter, full and reliable details regarding any point, upon which the intending emigrant desires information. Other pamphlets about Canada will be supplied upon application to any of the agents mentioned underneath. The following is a list of the Canadian Government Agents in the United Kingdom :—

England—

Mr. J. Obed Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Emigration, 11-12 Charing Cross, London.

Mr. A. F. Jury, Old Castle Bldgs., Preeson's Row; Liverpool.

Mr. G. H. Mitchell, 139 Corporation street, Birmingham.

Mr. Alex. McOwan, 81 Queen street, Exeter.

Mr. L. Burnett, 16 Parliament street, York.

Scotland—

Mr. Malcolm McIntyre, 35-37 St. Enoch Square, Glasgow.

Mr. John McLennan, 26 Guild Street, Aberdeen.

Ireland—

Mr. John Webster, 17-19 Victoria street, Belfast.

Mr. Edward O'Kelly, 44 Dawson street, Dublin.

IMPORTANT.

Farmers, Farm Labourers, and Female Domestic Servants are the only people whom the Canada Immigration Department advises to go to Canada.

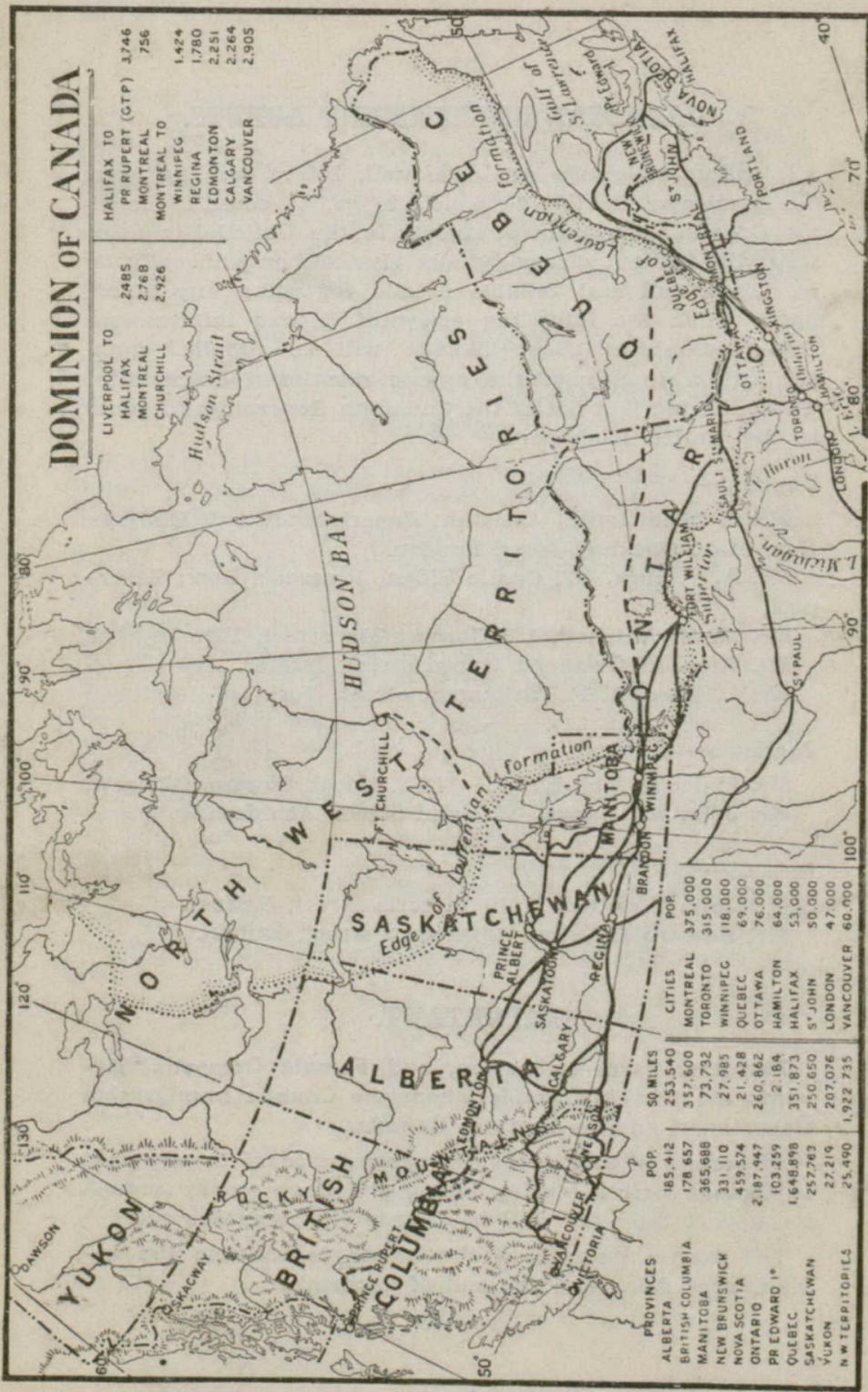
All others should get definite assurance of employment in Canada before leaving home, and have money enough to support them for a time in case of disappointment.

The proper time to reach Canada is between the beginning of April and the end of September.

DOMINION OF CANADA

HALIFAX TO	3,746
PR RUPERT (GTP)	756
MONTREAL TO	1,424
WINNIPEG	1,780
REGINA	2,251
EDMONTON	2,264
CALGARY	2,905
VANCOUVER	

LIVERPOOL TO	2,485
HALIFAX	2,768
MONTREAL	2,926
CHURCHILL	



PROVINCES	POP.	50 MILES	CITIES	POP.
ALBERTA	185,412	253,540	MONTREAL	375,000
BRITISH COLUMBIA	178,657	337,600	TORONTO	315,000
MANITOBA	365,688	73,732	WINNIPEG	118,000
NEW BRUNSWICK	331,110	27,985	QUEBEC	69,000
NOVA SCOTIA	439,574	21,428	OTTAWA	76,000
ONTARIO	2,187,947	260,862	HAMILTON	64,000
PR EDWARD I*	103,259	2,184	HALIFAX	53,000
QUEBEC	1,648,898	351,873	S ^T JOHN	50,000
SASKATCHEWAN	252,762	250,650	LONDON	47,000
YUKON	27,219	207,076	VANCOUVER	60,000
N.W.TERRITORIES	25,490	1,922,735		