

Selected Article.

WESTERN CANADA'S HOSPITALS.

In our October issue (*Resources*, Montreal) we attempted, in the article "The Weather of the West," to give to the growing public interested in the North-West Territories some definite idea of the climatic conditions there. Almost the first point upon which an intending settler wishes to satisfy himself is whether the prospective land of his adoption has a healthy climate. To the man who has satisfied himself that in Assiniboia, Alberta and Saskatchewan not only are the weather conditions admirably adapted to wheat-growing, ranching and mixed farming, but equally enjoyable to the human beings engaged in these occupations, we would now present some facts as to another very vital point, viz., the hospital accommodation in the land wherein he contemplates making his new home. If the Canadians of Ontario and Quebec are themselves very hazy about what the Far West provides to-day of such necessities of life as good hospitals, it is not to be wondered at that the minds of people from afar off are almost a complete blank on this question. From letters received by our Bureau of Information during the past months, it is clear that many would-be emigrants are not aware that there are such things as hospitals in the West at all. Even the best-informed of them have little idea of what splendid efforts have been made by these newly-settled provinces, which yesterday were almost wild prairie, to provide for the care of the sick and injured. There is no feature of life in these great new lands which more astonishes the visitor than the hospital accommodation already provided there. In a country where most of the people are poor and busy providing homes for themselves, where many articles are dear and money badly wanted for material development, it is a stimulating sight to find neat cottage hospitals, the tangible result of the generosity and self-sacrifice of the residents, where everything that care and kindness can do for the ailing is to be found, and where, despite the lack of expensive apparatus, splendid work is being done by men and women who have few opportunities for study and practice.

In the annual report of the Department of Agriculture of the North-West Territories for 1903, there is, under the heading Public Health, a very interesting report of the Inspector of Territorial Hospitals, Dr. Kennedy. In his general remarks, after commenting upon the need for increased accommodation to meet the very