CANADA IN IRELAND.

Our Irish International Exhibition, in Dublin, has now more than half run its course, and since May has been attracting visitors from all parts of the world. It is encouraging to hear at all hands the expression of much appreciation at the fine displays, representative of art, manufacture and industry, which the promoters have been successful in obtaining and setting forth in such an attractive manner. In a previous article, published in the issue of February 21st, I gave a brief but comprehensive sketch of the scope of the Exhibition, and mentioned its leading features, and space need not now be occupied in repetition. Suffice to say that the anticipations of a magnificent sight have been fully realized. The promoters have been very unfortunate in regard to weather conditions, for, since the opening, few fine days could be relied on for any length of time. Notwithstanding this, the attendance has been decidedly large and encouraging. Contrary to the usual custom, the authorities, in spite of many protests, decided, after the first month, to open portions of the Exhibition on Sundays, but within the past few weeks they have decided to cease this arrangement. The thoughtful visit from Their Majesties the King and Queen the second week in July naturally created much excitement, and it was gratifying to hear the royal patrons express so much delight with the excellent features which the exhibition presented, and give utterance to the hope that it would materially assist in the industrial development of the country. Irish industries are most creditably represented in the different sections, and in certain classes appear quite able to hold their own with the best produced outside the country. Agriculture is kept prominent by means of a series of most instructive experimental and demonstration plots, in which are grown different varieties of all kinds of crops, with the aid of different dressings of manures, etc.

In this letter I wish, however, particularly to refer to the Canadian section. Throughout the Exhibition, one frequently overhears the natural question, "What do you like best?" and with remarkable unanimity comes the reply, "Well, there are many fine things, but Canada is really grand," or words to that effect. Nor is this unqualified admiration more than it deserves, for the entire display is a wonderful example of enterprise, and evinces in a marked way the work of some master minds, in which the practical and the beautiful are apparently most harmoniously blended. Through the courtesy of Col. Wm. Hutchison, the Commissioner in charge, reproduction of the accompanying photograph is rendered possible. It will be noticed that the architectural style of the magnificent building renders it a conspicuous object. It takes the form of a rectangular structure, with its walls barred with timber. In front, three prominent gables interrupt the line of the facade, the central one of which forms a large vestibule, the entrance reached by a substantial and pretty staircase. The outdoor ornamentation is very artistic indeed, the national emblem—the maple leaf—being given fitting prominence on a series of plate-glass windows. The building is 70 feet high, 200 feet long, and over 90 feet wide, affording a flooring of 10,000 square feet for the display of exhibits and office accommodation. On the eastern gable the word "Canada" is set out in immense lettering, and the entrance door is surmounted by the sentiment, "Irish-Canadian Entente Cordial."

Passing up the stairs and through the entrance door, one is immediately struck with the effective way in which the resources of the Dominion —mineral, agricultural, industrial, etc.—are displayed. The walls are tastefully ornamented with sheaves of corn and grass on a background of green, which some think is intended as a compliment to Ireland. Straw designs also figure as wall decoration, while near the juncture of wall and ceiling are hung a series of photo enlargements of typical Canadian scenery, each 10 feet by 3½ feet. The walls shoot off into a number of alcoves, and the pillars separating these are surmounted by the antlered heads of various types of Canadian deer, and the sides are utilized for displaying in gold painted letters, on a black background; striking reading matter regarding Canadian resources and features, their present development and future possibilities. One of these alcoves is devoted to a display of the Dominion's fruit products. The realness and effectiveness of the arrangement is just typical of the way in which the other sections are utilized. Canadian agricultural machinery is prominently displayed at one end of the building, the exhibit being surmounted by a huge railroad map of Canada, flanked on both sides by pictures of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Sir John A. Macdonald. In bold letters stand out the words, "Nation Builders." A very interesting spectacle at the opposite end of the pavilion, to the left of entrance, shows as a panorama the fauna of Canada. In the foreground are a trio of splendid buffaloes, while among the other animals, of which stuffed specimens are shown, are the polar bear, the musk ox, the moose, cariboo, elk, red deer, grizzly bear, black bear, beaver, raccoon, wolf, a great variety of birds, waterfowl, etc. As a background to this most magnificent picture is a painting nearly 100 feet long, depicting prairie scenes, Canadian cornfields, and homes of settlers after different periods of residence. Close to the entrance is a unique display of butter. This is a model of a farmhouse, surrounded by all the usual stock, trees, ponds, etc., executed in a most tasteful style. In this vicinity there are shown boxes of Canadian butter made up for the British markets, and near by there is a splendid display of Canadian bacon and cheese. Not the least important section is that devoted to forest products, the timber representing the various classes of trees native to Canada being very high-class, one log of Douglas fir having a diameter of fully 6 feet. Space would fail me to mention the remarkable exhibit of minerals, fisheries and other resources which are represented. The entire display is a revelation to all, and is certainly as effective an advertisement as any country could wish. Canadian and American visitors have, Col. Hutchinson informs me, been very numerous, and as regards the exhibition as a whole, his words are, "One of the cleanest and best-run shows I've ever seen."

Dublin. "EMERALD ISLE."

METHODS OF STORING SEED CORN.

Extracts from an address by L. S. Klinck, Macdonald College, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que., befor the third annual meeting of the Canadian Seed-growers' Association:

TIME TO HARVEST SEED CORN.

The time to harvest seed corn is determined wholly by the nature of the variety and by seasonal conditions. If the variety be sufficiently early to mature before danger fron freezing, it should, by all means, be left to mature on the stalk. Seed corn husked in the dough or denting stage always shrivels up badly when dried, because it has not been given time to store up within its seed-coats all the nutriment the stalk and leaves have manufactured for it. It follows from this that the vigor of the resulting stalk must be impaired, because the vitality of the seed which produced it was below the normal. If, however, the corn is so late as to be liable to be injured by freezing in the field, it should be gathered and stored in some place where it will not freeze, and where, at the same time, currents of air can carry off the moisture. Experiments show the necessity of paying the most careful attention to the seed corn as soon as husked, as the most critical time in the life of a seed ear is the first ten days after it is harvested.

Corn which will not mature on the stalk before freezing has the advantage of all the nutriment the stalk and leaves have elaborated for its use, and at the same time has all the additional advantages of a perfect system of early fall storage.

As the ears approach full development, especially in the dent varieties, they gradually bend over until the tip of the ear points downward. Soon the husks open and allow a free circulation of air-around the entire ear. The husks protect it from the rain and from the direct rays of the sun. As each ear hangs by itself, the danger of heating and moulding through coming in contact with other ears or objects, as is generally the case in artificial storing, is reduced to a minimum. And, right in this connection, let me emphasize the fact that you cannot freeze corn that is not thoroughly dry without seriously impairing its germinating power. A large seed-corn grower told me recently that he was not afraid of slightly-frozen seed corn, so long as it was gradually thawed out at a low temperature. This doctrine, if practiced, wili do more iniury to the building up of a successful trade in Canadian seed corn than any other one thing could do. In some quarters it has already prejudiced large corn-growers against Canadian-grown seed.

STORING A SMALL SUPPLY.

When seed is not grown on a commercial scale, no special seed-house need be provided for storing the choice ears. Every farmer has a number of places where these ears may be stored. Some husk the best ears in the field before danger of freezing, braid the husks of the ears together, and hang the bunches to dry under the veranda, on the branch of a tree, in the barn loft, over the crib, or in the back kitchen. Others take a stout cord, which they tie around each ear separately, and suspend the ears in long rows from the ceiling. These methods admit of free circulation around each ear, and are favorable to rapid drying. Those methods which prevent the rain and the direct rays of the sun from falling on the ears are the most satisfactory.

As soon as there is danger of severe freezing, it is good practice to store the seed ears in the attic or over the kitchen. If the kitchen stove-pipe passes through this room, so much the better, providing the steam cannot enter. Perfectly dry corn absorbs moisture readily, and in such a case is apt to freeze, even if at one time it was perfectly dry. Frost will not injure corn so long as it is dry, and is kept dry.

In furnace-heated houses, seed corn is often stored in the basement. This is a very satisfactory method, providing the corn has lost the major part of its moisture before being brought in. Unless it has become fairly well dried before it is put into a cellar having no artificial heat, or where that artificial heat is not produced until some time after the corn has been stored, it is almost sure to mould, owing to natural dampness. On the other hand, if placed in a furnace-heated room, there is danger of germination being induced by the heat from the furnace and the moisture in the corn. Corn dried by artificial heat is sometimes slower in germinating than corn dried naturally, but in field tests it has the best record for vigor and yield.

Seed corn should always be stored in the ear. If shelled in early spring, the seed should be placed in sacks containing not more than one-half bushel, and hung up in a dry place where there is an active circulation of air. A difference of two per cent. in the moisture content of shelled corn will materially influence its keeping quality.

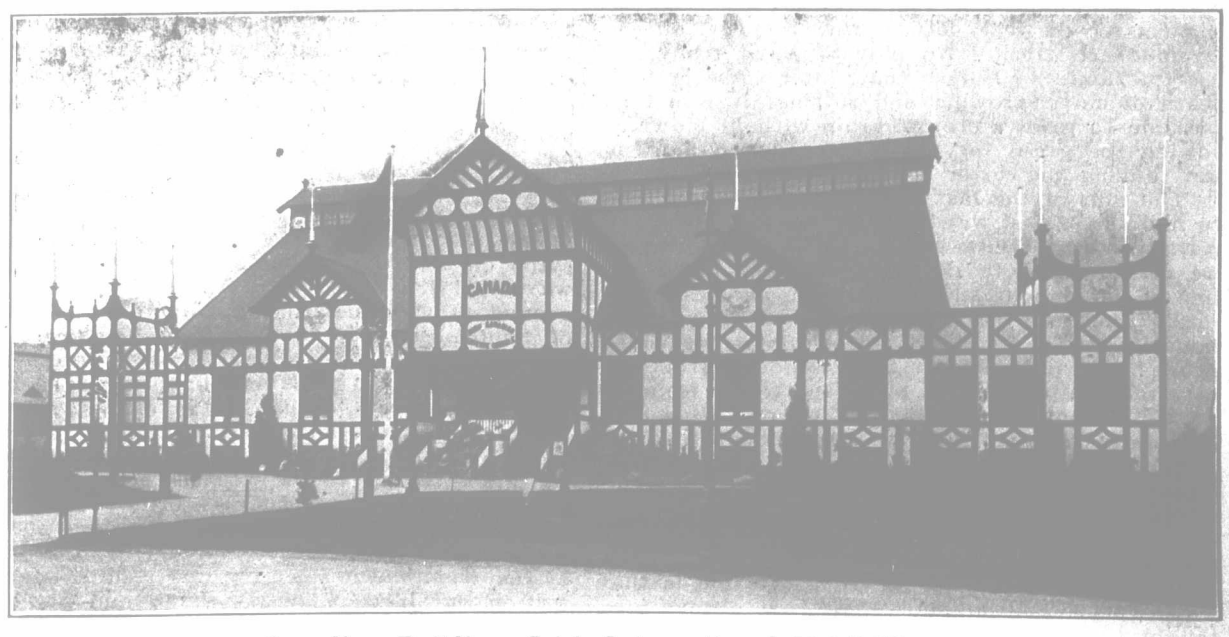
Never hang seed corn in the granary over other grain. Unless the grain is very dry, it will continue to give off moisture for some months after storing, and this evaporated moisture will prove detrimental to the vitality of the corn. Seed corn stored over stock is rarely satisfactory, as the animal's breath tends to keep the corn damp.

STORING SWEET CORN.

Sweet corn is, as a rule, much more difficult to cure than dent or flint corns. It is also more difficult to tell by inspection when an ear has been frosted, and, as a result, the percentage of germinable kernels is often very low. In the improvement of sweet corns, as in the case of dents and flints, we must learn to deny ourselves the earliest and best ears for boiling and roasting, as corn shows very readily the kind of selection most practiced.

In some sections the top of the stalk is removed at the close of the growing season; the husks are stripped back without severing the ear from the stalk, and the ear is left to dry. This is good practice where the fall season is dry, but in damp climates the ears are apt to become badly discolored, as they dry slowly. Where birds are troublesome, this method cannot be followed successfully.

Some growers husk and store sweet corn as soon as ripe. On a bright, drying morning they husk it and leave it in the field in small piles until



Canadian Building, Irish International Exhibition.