

## WHAT THE WEST CAN DO

FORT WILLIAM certainly justifies already some of the proud hopes of its spirited people. It is really an astounding proof of what the great West can do in a short time. It is a town with such splendid and ubiquitous watercourses that you seem never to be able to get away from either the mighty lake or the big river. On the rivers and on the lake there are huge, gigantic grain stores, which in Canada, as in the United States, they call grain elevators; big vessels are loading and unloading all around you; there are gigantic works belonging to the C.P.R.; there are mountains of coal. And the town everywhere is spreading out—you might compare it to a great tree which in the springtime becomes every hour thicker in leaf.

AND here also you come in immediate contact with another of the most outstanding features of the great West; and that is the extraordinary cosmopolitanism of its new population. I was told at Regina, the capital of Saskatchewan, that there were



THE KIND OF HOME THAT A CANADIAN FARMER CAN ASPIRE TO

no fewer than forty-seven different nationalities represented in the town. I don't know whether there are so many in Fort William, but certainly there are sections of the town that look as foreign as though they were in Prague, or Warsaw, or Turin. Streets of small wooden shanties, in straggling streets with new-born and still rough roads, and scattered at irregular intervals with big gaps between; and on the streets children with black eyes and olive skins, or with the unmistakable features of the Slav. It is at once an encouraging and a depressing feature; encouraging as proving that the great West will soon be thoroughly settled, and that other nations realise all the freedom and all the golden chances that are to be found in Canada; and depressing that while this greatest, wealthiest, most beautiful of the possessions of the British people should appeal in vain to the races of these isles for their surplus population, should bare its beautiful, hospitable, boundless bosom to the British immigrant, the British emigrant should seek a homeless sphere.—T. P. O Connor, M.P., in *T. P.'s Magazine*.

## CANADIAN PACIFIC