

Winnipeg has been called the Chicago of Canada. The same elements stand behind her growth that existed in the early days of that great-mid-western metropolis. Back in the fifties people scoffed at the idea that Chicago would ever become more than a healthy frontier town, but the agricultural and commercial conditions demanded a great city on the spot where Chicago stands. And so it is with Winnipeg today, with this difference.

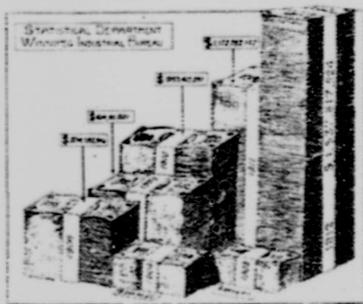
No country in the history of the World has attracted to its borders a larger number of settlers in so short a period of time, or has attracted so much wealth in a period of equal length, as have the Canadian Prairies. Never before has pioneer work been accomplished under conditions so favorable as those that exist in Western Canada today.

Here is a country, where no more than forty years ago, there were about 12,000 people, mostly half-breeds and Indians, but which has now a population of over a million and a half, and is adding to that number at a rate of over a thousand a day. The soil is the richest in the World, and produces crops year after year of unexcelled quality and higher average yield than any other country in the World where farming is done on the same big scale. And the tilling of the agricultural West has barely begun. Of the arable area—some 200,000,000 acres—only a small fractional part—estimated at one-eighth—is under plough.

When the cultivated area was limited to a small strip of land on the banks of the Red River, climatic conditions made the harvest a thing of uncertainty, but this is now of the past. The area now yielding annual harvest is so extensive that districts only, are effected during an inclement year, and in spite of ill-favored weather plentiful harvests are assured.

The total value of this year's grain crop, estimated after a systematic and comprehensive examination of actual conditions on the spot, by leading financial houses, is over \$250,000,000 to the producer. If that does not spell success to the merchant, the manufacturer and business man—what does?

Winnipeg, the economic manufacturing, supply, and distribution centre of this splendid domain, stands with five railroad systems, and sixteen main lines, 14,887 miles of railroad radiating from her midst; already the World's greatest handler of grain, with an annual trade turnover amounting annually to over \$150,000,000 and only at the beginning of things.



Primarily a trading post on the outskirts of civilization, then a trading and jobbing centre for a limited agricultural population, Winnipeg, the prairie metropolis of today reflects the condition of the fertile prairie provinces, to which it forms the key and with which its future is inseparably identified. The purchasing power of the prairie provinces, now estimated with moderation at \$300,000,000 but a small fractional part of the sum to be obtained from a fully developed West. One eighth only of the available land under cultivation, men and money pouring in under the most favorable pioneering conditions, a new country has been seen, and railway development growing at a relatively faster rate than in any other country of the World, the greatest growing market for merchants and manufacturers in the World is developing at our doors.

With two hydro-electric power plants, an investment of over \$8,000,000, supplying light and power at practically cost price, with plenty of factory sites, reasonable taxation, a plentiful supply of raw materials and good labor conditions, our great Western market, Winnipeg has more combined attractions than any city in America.

The statistics of Winnipeg's advancement are full of interest and encouragement, interest in the achievement of the past, and encouragement for the work of the future. Much has been done, but much more remains to be accomplished if Winnipeg would fulfill its destiny and cope intelligently with the problems this duty entails—and the people are doing this with greater vim and confidence than any other city in the World.