

Education in Manitoba

Manitoba is a young province, but it is well advanced in the matter of education. This is a very important consideration for settlers going into a new country. All the older settled districts of Manitoba are now well supplied with schools, and everywhere throughout the Canadian west schools rapidly follow wherever new settlements are found. In Manitoba schools are free and the province enjoys a public, non-sectarian system of education. In some of the rural districts where population is sparse the school building frequently serves as a place of worship as well. The Liberal newspaper of Portage la Prairie recently contained an article on the schools of Manitoba, from which we take the following:

"The law for the establishment of schools is exceedingly simple and easily worked. The power to form and re-adjust school district is vested in the municipal council. The council can form parts of the municipality into school districts, provided there are at least ten children of school age (5 to 16) resident within the territory in question, and provided also that no school district shall contain more than twenty square miles. The

used, and only teachers holding certificates from the department shall be employed. To secure an adequate supply of trained teachers, examinations are held once a year, and those desiring to do so can write for a certificate. Afterwards those who pass the examination have to attend the Normal school, established and carried on at government expense, before being allowed to teach.

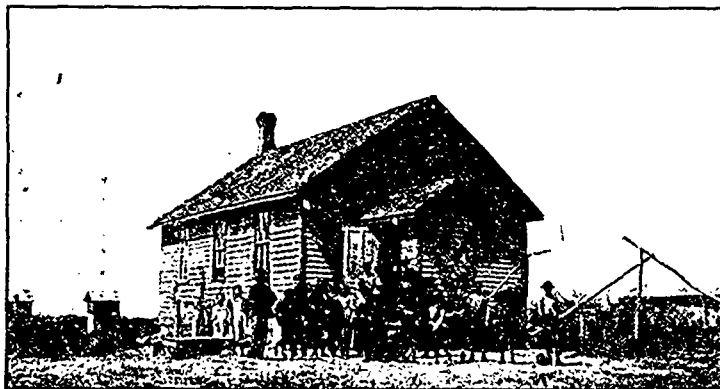
The school district is managed by three trustees, who hold office for three years, one being elected each year, by the ratepayers of the district.

Closely in touch with the rural schools are the more advanced and better equipped schools of the villages and towns. There are what are called intermediate schools, and, in consideration of the doing of certain advanced work, they receive a larger grant from the government."

To this it may be added that higher education is liberally provided for by the collegiate institutes, colleges, and academies in the larger towns and the University of Manitoba.

Dry Goods Trade.

The Manchester cloth market is strong and fairly active, with yarns



TYPICAL, RURAL, SCHOOL, IN MANITOBA.

money necessary to build a new school can be obtained from the government. The school district can issue debentures for an amount not exceeding seven hundred dollars. These debentures bear six per cent. interest and are payable in ten years, in equal annual instalments. The government will take these debentures at par and advance the money at once for the building of the school. For the maintenance of the school, funds are provided as follows: For each teacher employed the government gives a grant of \$130 per year, or a proportionate part if the school is not kept open all the year. The municipal council gives a grant of \$240 upon the same basis. What is required over this amount is raised by a special levy upon the school district itself. This arrangement enables poor localities and new settlements to open schools when, if they had to contribute to the entire support themselves, they could not do so.

The efficiency of the schools is insured by government supervision. The conditions upon which the government grant is paid is that the school shall be conducted in accordance with the regulations of the department of education. The principal features of the regulations are that only text books authorized by the department shall be

a farthing dearer. Some spinners are now asking 3-8d advance. Cloth, on very long engagements, is much higher, the selling limits preventing a large business being completed. Sellers mostly refuse to make the usual over-night firm offers. Advances from Rouen show a firm demand for yarns and rising prices.

The Boston wool market continues dull. The inquiry is more to see how much prices have weakened, and the bids made are about 2c below former prices. Dealers have not lost confidence in values, however, and while in some instances concessions of 1c might be made, the market shows fair steadiness as a whole. About 200,000 pounds Cape wool, which make up most of the balance of the bark Cudoon's cargo, which was run ashore at Nantucket, has been sold to go to Canada, as was the rest of the cargo a couple of weeks since.

Hardly less important to the old-established cotton-manufacturing countries, and especially to Great Britain and her colonies, than the rise of Japan is the rapid development of the cotton manufacturing industry of Mexico. An English consul has made a special report on the Mexican industry, and the conclusion he appears to have arrived at is that the native mills will be able, in a few

years, to furnish all of the coarse cotton goods required by that country.

Freight Rates and Traffic Matters.

The first big deal in ocean cattle freight this season, says the Montreal Gazette, was made known to-day. It was the engaging of all the Allan and Refords' Glasgow freight from this port during the months of May and June. The rate paid is kept private, but it is believed to be around 15s.

The Montreal Gazette says of ocean freight: A further advance of 3d all round has to be recorded for grain. All the space for May has been filled and the bulk of June with some engagements for July. Liverpool has been let at 3s 3d; and Glasgow at 3s 9d, with steamship agents now asking 3s 9d for London and Avonmouth, and 3s 6d for 3s 9d for Belfast and London.

Chicago Trade Bulletin says: Rail rates are unsettled. East bound lines are taking grain from Chicago to New York at 12 to 13c. Ocean rates are active and higher, having doubled in three weeks, and are 51-1d per bushel on grain from New York to Liverpool. Through rates from Chicago to Liverpool are 161-1c per bushel on wheat and 16c on corn. Flour is 34 to 34-5-8c per 100 lbs. and provisions 461-3 to 48c per 100 lbs. Lake and rail rates to New England are 161-2c per 100 lbs. flour, 91-2c per bushel on wheat, 81-2c on corn and 51-2c on oats. Lake rates from Chicago to Buffalo were steady with a good business at 11-1c on wheat, 11-8c on corn and 1c on oats. Corn was taken to Kingston at 23-1c.

Business at Vancouver.

Vancouver, May 2.

There are several important changes in the wholesale markets in Vancouver. In the dairy market California and Oregon eggs are no longer on sale. Eastern case eggs are now sold plentifully at 17 and 18 cents. Manitoba cheese has advanced and is now selling at 12 and 121-2c. Cured meats are firm with an upward tendency, and lard has made an advance of 1c. Tins 11c and tubs 10c. The most remarkable feature in the market however is the drop in potatoes. Though Ashcroft's are still quoted at \$19.50 the ordinary article grown largely by Chinese, have fallen from \$13 and \$15 to \$8 and \$12. At this time of year potatoes are usually increasing in value, and wholesalers cannot account for the sudden fall in price. The theory advanced is that the Chinamen have been holding for better prices, and as there is a sort of free masonry among them, a number of these Mongolian potato raisers decided to stand by each other in maintaining prices. But they had not accounted for a big supply being also held by whites, and when they realized this they decided there were too many potatoes in the country and scrambled over each other to unload. Fruits remain the same but flour is still advancing, Manitoba selling at \$6.50 and Strong Bakers at \$6.20. Wheat has advanced to \$30. As flour and feed is advancing rapidly in the United States it is expected to go much higher here. Hay is still unchanged. Although the outfitting trade has fallen off very materially there are other influences tending to keep up the price. Farmers are all seeding, and the delivery is small. Farmers report a good spring, and anticipated big crops and good prices.