

the Fair grounds to incoming settlers, I am told. And the display of field implements was very extensive. Naturally enough, where farmers by the thousands are their only customers, the makers of reapers and binders and threshers, rakes and drills, ploughs and harrows, have samples of these things galore at every such event. And it is a good time for the farmer to select them. It must be remembered too, that the big United States firms which make field implements are now largely represented among the manufacturers of Winnipeg and other Canadian cities. Not to be kept out of so great a future field of operation by customs duties on their American made machines, they erected factories in Canada in different cities and now produce their implements here. In keeping with the progress of the day toward the extinction of the horse as a power, people of the Western States are applying their ingenuity to the application of compressed air, gasoline, steam and electricity to field implements. But while it is true that an automobile mower has been shown in Canada in successful operation, no machine is yet produced at a popular price to do its work. The average farmer will not pay \$500 for the machine.

So much of the area of the grounds is taken up with the race track (or rather the show track), the platform, show attractions and pavilion, and the Midway, that I may almost say they occupy half the whole space. Folks must be amused, you know—farmers' wives and children, *certainly*; the farmer himself, *if you can*. The buildings, of course, take much space, for besides the Main Building, the Agricultural, Dairying and Horticultural buildings, there are necessarily a whole lot for animals and there are subsidiary structures besides. The Dairy Building, intended now among other things to show dairy processes in operation, though it has been enlarged is still too small. Great interest is taken in what goes on within it, because Manitoba farmers realize to-day the importance of the cow in any scheme of mixed farming. This province is doing better in the way of fruit culture, too, than people would have admitted possible twenty years ago. But a very large proportion of what is shown here consists of small fruits, such as strawberries, raspberries, currants and gooseberries.

In the Main Building of the Exhibition is to be found a great variety of manufactured goods from all parts of the Dominion; woollens from Nova Scotia and Manitoba; food-stuffs from Niagara and Winnipeg; Brantford machines and Galt machines; exhibits from Toronto and from Montreal; United States exhibits as well. It is perceptible, however, that the proportion of manufactured goods produced in Manitoba has grown, for there are factories in Winnipeg to-day and there are likely to be more to-morrow. It would make this letter too long if I were to attempt a list of exhibits in this building, so I shall generalize. Two departments struck me as important; one the display of manual training work by scholars of the Winnipeg schools, an excellent illustration of improving skill in using tools; and another the exhibition of work from the Indian schools. In this building is the Art Gallery, where the works of local artists, in oil and water-color, are on show, and also a sale-collection of paintings by Ontario artists. The latter meet with good success at our fairs, I am told, in disposing of their wares, for people are growing better able to afford such delights as good pictures.

To accommodate the throng of visitors that a Winnipeg Summer Fair always brings, the authorities took great precautions this year, remembering the crowded discomfort of former years to many visitors. Weeks before the opening day, a committee canvassed the city and made a list of rooms available in private houses for Fair week. They by this means added accommodation for 12,000 or 14,000 to the number that hotels and boarding-houses would hold. And yet people were sleeping in the parks and on kerb stones; fifty persons slept in one room at a certain hotel. Citizens were hospitable to an extreme, and in this way comfort was brought to many who must otherwise have had nowhere to lay their heads. Besides the number of strangers, Americans and others, who have thronged here this time, the Fair week is a great season for the assembling of provincial or other associations of various kinds and it is a great shopping

time as well, the cheap railway rates of the week inducing numbers to come to the city—wives, sisters, cousins, aunts, and even children. Such an air of bustle, of holiday, of flag-flying, of bands parading—on the day I was there I heard six hands, three of them from the States—Winnipeg looked her best, and the weather was favorable for a warm welcome.

Only on Friday, the day before the closing, was there any rain, and then it was a torrent which spoiled the evening fireworks. The record for attendance is estimated to have been surpassed this year. Great crowds witnessed the horse races; and in those crowds, as indeed anywhere they could get a half chance, thieves and swindlers operated, and made "hauls" in spite of the vigilance of the police. This Fair, which finished yesterday, in all probability has surpassed any previous one in its value as an advertisement to Dakotans and Minnesotans of the progress of Winnipeg and the great future of our Northwest.

Winnipeg, 26th July, 1903.

ADMIRAL.

AFFAIRS IN NOVA SCOTIA.

The end of July sees all branches of trade more than usually active in Halifax and the province. Prosperity attends the labors of farmers, fishermen, miners, and lumbermen. Railway construction causes money circulation in the Shore counties. The apple crop promises to be large, equaling that of 1901, when 450,000 barrels were available for export. Wholesale houses find their customers well supplied with cash and, as a rule, able to meet their indebtedness as bills of goods fall due. No important financial disturbances are in evidence, and the outlook for fall trade is as good as last year.

The tourist season is now at its height, and country as well as city is literally overrun with these welcome visitors. Every incoming steamboat and train is crowded with people coming to spend a more or less protracted holiday "in the Provinces." In addition to the British North American Squadron, of which Halifax is headquarters, one French and two German warships have been at anchor in the harbor for some time. While this makes lively times in society circles, it has its business advantages as well. Not only must the warships be provisioned, but the Tars spend their earnings freely when they come ashore. The mechanics employed at the dockyard are working a day and a half in each twenty-four hours, and will continue to do so until September, when the British ships will be ready for their annual Southern cruise.

The problem of how to prevent the further depletion of the lobster industry appears to have been successfully solved. The lobster has become commercially extinct, save in the coast waters of our Maritime Provinces. Even here they are much less numerous than formerly, and only the wise precautions of the Dominion Government has prevented their extinction here also. The establishment of close seasons, artificial propagation and the prohibition of taking spawn lobsters have to some extent been effective. The latter provision proved impossible of enforcement. This year the experiment was tried of buying the spawn lobsters of the fishermen and impounding them in a large water enclosure to be liberated at the opening of the close season to propagate in the natural way. The experiment has proved a perfect success, the adult lobsters being in perfect condition, the eggs being in all stages of development, and the waters of the pound teeming with vigorous lobster fry.

The general manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia, Mr. H. C. McLeod, arrived in the city last week in his yacht "Gloria," having successfully made the cruise from Toronto to Halifax. At Charlottetown he was joined by W. E. with cash, and, as a rule, able to meet their indebtedness as accompanied him to Halifax. Mr. McLeod will leave in a few days in the "Gloria" for New York, arriving there, with his party in time, it is hoped, to witness the races for the America's cup.

The annual meeting of the Trinidad Electric Company, Limited, in which many Canadians are interested, was held in this city last week, the president, Mr. John F. Stairs,