

Dominion Exhibition in Dominion Capital.

An event, long sought, which may never be repeated, at least, not for a decade is the Dominion Exhibition in the Dominion Capital. This enterprise, which will be launched on September 5th, has developed into a magnitude unforeseen even by its ambitious promoters. The enormous volume of entries received from the nine provinces, attests active co-operation by the leading industrial and commercial interests throughout Canada. The unprecedented demand for admission tickets sold at six for a dollar up to the opening of the Exhibition gives promise of monster crowds of visitors from all parts of Central Canada. Fortunately the typhoid epidemic, which affected nearly one per cent of Ottawa's population, came to an end before it could interfere with attendance at the Exhibition, and the city is preparing to entertain thousands more than if the cause of the fever trouble had not been discovered and removed. The latest pronouncement on the city water by Dr. Shirreff, Medical Health Officer, is that it has been safe for drinking for the past six weeks, and must continue so under the present method of safeguarding the supply.

THE CANADIAN NATIONAL SHOW OF 1912.

"It is wonderful, magnificent!" was the vivid way in which the Duke of Connaught epitomized his impressions of the Canadian National Exhibition of Toronto for 1912. Officially as Governor-General of the Dominion, and as a private citizen going through one department after another, he had ample time to acquaint himself with what, inwardly and outwardly, the exposition really consists, so that his comment was no idle compliment. What impresses a thoughtful observer this year is the sense of solidity and permanence which invests the buildings, the vast variety and substantial merit of what is displayed. About its growth as an institution there is nothing hurried or ephemeral, and it runs like a smoothly adjusted motor. A representative of one of the largest American manufacturing concerns conceded from actual knowledge of all the leading state fairs, that none of them was at all comparable with the Canadian National, which ranked with the great world's fairs that had been held. As an educator and commercial indicator, we are inclined to think that because of its character and regular recurrence, it is of greater value to this country than any world's fair could be. As a representation of the products and processes of this country, it is Canada's annual challenge to the world. From comparatively modest beginning, thirty-four years ago, it has grown until now the buildings and equipment represent an investment of probably two and a quarter million dollars; and an outlay, including some \$55,000 for prize list proper, of about \$300,000 annually for running expenses. The handsome new entrance at a cost of \$40,000, illustrated elsewhere in this issue expedites the admission and exit of great crowds and makes at the outset a most remarkable impression on the visitor. The new electrical illuminations add wonderfully to the charming appearance of the scene at night. Upon entering the grounds, this is immediately heightened by the really imposing proportions and architecture of the new Government Building towards which the Dominion treasury contributed \$100,000, Ontario \$25,000, and Toronto \$35,000, accounting for a total cost of \$160,000. Towards the central portion of the grounds, and adjacent to the old live stock and other structures of a more hazardous and inflammable nature, stand the new fire hall and police building, involving a further large outlay of \$35,000. The adequate live stock judging pavilion long-talked-of is still conspicuous by its absence, and in this department the next most serious undertaking in the way of improved accommodation is doubtless to be found, if the public is to see with comfort and to real educational profit, the live stock exhibits. Present conditions of discomfort make this next to impossible. Of the breeds and types of live stock, multitudes remain in comparative ignorance. To these problems the directorate should address themselves seriously forthwith. Canadian pure bred live stock has won pre-eminence, but so far as the general public are concerned the educational benefits of the exhibits are largely lost. The facilities for viewing the horse judging are wretched, particularly from the standpoint of the representative of the agricultural press. If the live stock department is crowded into the back ground by the less important features, the whole show will ultimately suffer. The representation of these interests on the directorate needs to be powerfully re-inforced, and necessary reforms insisted upon. The increased building space provided during the last two years is more than occupied, there being many over-flow displays sheltered under canvas, including several very fine and varied exhibits by farm implement makers.

Essentially it is a Canadian Show and ought so to remain, but with enough of British,

The Dominion Exhibition will be in full swing from the morning of Saturday, September 7th, to the end of the Night Show on Saturday, September 14th. In addition to the daily program of splendid attractions, which will be mailed on request many special features are billed for single days. The opening Saturday, for instance, has a half hour of fancy drill and physical exercises by 1,000 Baden-Powell Boy Scouts. It is also the biggest racing day, with two \$400 events. The Scots Guards Band which will appear in Rideau Rink, September 12th makes that a conspicuous date. Live stock parades, horse shows, and jumping are distributed over the last four days of the Exhibition. For the final Saturday, is billed the sensational high jumping to beat the Canadian out-door record, the purse being \$150. Railway rates are reduced to one-third the usual cost of travel on the excursions, which will be run from all Canada, east of Port Arthur.

"If I were going to be a calf I should want to be a calf to a cow like that," observed a visitor in the Toronto Exhibition cattle sheds as he passed a Holstein matron swinging a 100-lb. of milk per day udder.

American and foreign displays to stimulate and educate. Of natural products, industrial output and artistic creations, it has skimmed the cream of two continents. Over half a million dollars worth of exhibits from the United States, Great Britain, Germany, and France were bonded in Toronto for this year's show. As an advertisement of Canada it could not be easily excelled, but the tide of immigration and capital is running strong this way now. The immediate need is a more thoroughly educated and technically trained population, and if in some way the National Exhibition can effectually relate and link itself with the coming educational program, it will find its next most fruitful field of enterprise.

Though the large Transportation Building was packed with motor cars and cycles, it was worthy of remark that horse interests seem in no way affected, judged by the large array of entries. The horse will not be put out of business even by air machines. Other classes of live stock showed some diminution, partly by reason of the Foot and Mouth Disease outbreaks in Britain, stopping exports of cattle and sheep to Canada, while the lateness of the Canadian harvest and scarcity of farm labor probably acted as deterrents. Several fine herds of cattle were out from the Western provinces to contest with Easterners. From British Columbia to Toronto is a far call, but not too great for Pacific Coast enterprise. Poultry exhibits shrank probably one-third compared with former years. One of the newspapers attributed this in part to the fact that poultry rearing in Toronto is discouraged by prohibitory by-laws designed to protect sleeping citizens from the rooster-crowing nuisance. Or it may be that the boom in eggs and poultry is so great that the need for pushing the industry by exhibiting is not felt.

No abatement of interest could be observed in the Process and Machinery Buildings which were always thronged. The Hydro Electric and other demonstrative displays of the users of electricity excited constant curiosity and enquiry. It is significant of the advent of the new competitors in light and power that a big building formerly used for other purposes was this year the scene of a large and admirable "Gas Show," demonstrating uses and apparatus for distribution. The gas producers do not propose to abandon the field to "white power," and the public stands to benefit. Of this the exhibition is a tangible proof.

In the Horticultural Building evidences abounded of a fine growing season in Ontario, though such crops as tomatoes have been slow in ripening. Excellent vegetables were shown, but there is room for a little more originality and taste in the arrangement of these products than simply huddling them along on the flat. The leading seedmen of Canada deserve credit for their instructive and handsome exhibits. A large English firm was also present with a fine showing of seeds and products grown in Canada. Because of the enforcement of the regulation requiring payment for a concession to sell, only one exhibit of honey sweetened the show, but the quality was good. It would be difficult to conceive anything more beautiful than the gladioli display by two of our foremost specialists. The aster show was also superb.

A noticeably growing feature of the exhibition is the department of fertilizers for the farm well represented, and their use is steadily growing. Improved facilities for the display of these products and a more appropriate location would be to the interest of all concerned. The cement industry of Canada showed its vitality and progress pictorially and otherwise and there was a

Ontario Plowmen.

A meeting of the directors of the Ontario Plowmen's Association was held on the Exhibition Grounds, Toronto, on Thursday, August 29th. A resolution of condolence with the family of the late Mr. Walkington, who was a vice-president of the association, and also of regret at the serious illness of the president, Simpson Rennie, were passed. Arrangements were made for the conducting of the fall plowing programme in the various parts of the Province.

Ontario Horticultural Association

A meeting of the directors of the Ontario Horticultural Association was held on the Exhibition Grounds, Toronto, on Wednesday, August 28th. A splendid programme has been drawn up for the convention, which will be held on the Wednesday and Thursday of the week of the Ontario Horticultural Exhibition next November. Among those present was Prof. Hutt, who has just returned after a trip through Great Britain in the interests of horticulture.

strong turn-out of concrete machinery which is being brought to a high state of efficiency. Building will continue to be revolutionized by this product.

The Manufacturer's Building was well utilized, and in the Applied Arts Department the exhibits of lithographs and color painting, etchings, drawings, and illustrations, and photography, much of the material coming from England and the United States, was deservedly popular. In public esteem the collection of paintings assembled by the exhibition's executive officers this year and arranged in British, French, Canadian and American sections was undoubtedly more generally popular than ever before. Additional references to these and other features appear in our Home Magazine review.

The Dairy Building where the inaugural ceremony of the fair was appropriately held, contained exhibits of cheese and butter and witnessed demonstrations in making this latter product in keeping with the reputation which Canadian dairy-men have won.

From a farmer's point of view after the Department of Live Stock, the outstanding feature of the exhibition were the displays in the new government building, where the different provinces are afforded facilities to put their best foot forward. Ontario easily bore the palm, though Saskatchewan's Niagara Falls of wheat was a catchy novelty. The Intercolonial moving picture train was eagerly watched by the crowds. All the leading railways made unusually strong displays in this and other buildings; one of the roads in the South Western States making a keen colonizing appeal.

Under the great dome of this building was located the splendid pyramid of prizewinning grains, roots, etc., from the Ontario field crop and vegetable growers' competition, and a few yards west lay a great inverted octagon, the eight sections of which were filled with four grouped varieties of large and beautifully colored apples from the orchards of old Ontario. It was a happy hit. To the south it was flanked with magnificent displays of products from the counties of Lambton and Essex, whose county authorities and agricultural representatives are to be congratulated on their enterprise. To thousands of visitors the superb fruit and corn of these districts was a revelation. In richness of color, quality, size and uniformity, the fruit, which included peaches, pears and plums, was almost beyond criticism. Near by was a fine showing including a model rural school and grounds, with school garden products designed to indicate what Ontario schools are doing towards the teaching of agriculture. Across the west wing were the exhibits of the Ontario Agricultural College and to the north, sample productions from Northern Ontario. The Ontario Health Department renewed its educational campaign in this building, and the Bureau of Mines made a showing that opened the eyes of many to the provincial supplies of granite, marble and valuable products, not usually talked about like silver, gold or petroleum. There was a lot of good work from the Toronto schools and the Normal schools. In connection with the British Columbia display was a manual training work from the schools of Vancouver and something similar from the schools of Moosejaw, Saskatchewan, that ought to put some before another year rolls round. There is evident need of some one waking up. The archaeology display excited much interest but nothing commensurate with the enthusiastic delight evoked in the minds of thousands of youngsters who