

The post office system of Canada is one of the most efficient in the world. In 1900 the number of post offices amounted to 9,627, and the total number of letters was over 200,000,000. It may not be amiss to recall here the fact that Canada was the first to adopt the Imperial penny postage.

Field for Settlement

There still remain in this country immense areas of splendid farming lands open for settlement. The allotment of these is in the hands of the Dominion and the several Provincial Governments. Under the Dominion Government regulations any person who is the sole head of a family, or any male of 18 years of age or older may obtain 160 acres of land in Manitoba or the North-West Territories on payment of a fee of \$10. Leases of grazing lands are granted at an annual rental of 2 cents per acre.

The vast extent of these unsettled areas may be imagined when it is learned that in Manitoba alone only about one tenth of the agricultural land is now under cultivation. Population is, however, rapidly flowing in, and a prominent western citizen has recently predicted that the day is not very far distant when Manitoba will be producing as much wheat as the entire spring crop of the United States.* The Ontario Government is also putting forth strenuous efforts to colonize the fertile agricultural district lying in Northern Ontario.

Conclusion

The foregoing sketch will serve to furnish some idea, however inadequate, of the natural resources and industrial possibilities of Canada. The extent of these well warrants a belief in the continuance of the present prevailing good times as well as a much larger development in the future. As was remarked at the outset, what is required to enable Canada to work out her "manifest destiny" of a strong and prosperous member of the British Empire, is capital, population and markets, for all three of which she turns most naturally to the mother-land.

*T. W. Thompson, general manager of the W. W. Ogilvie Milling Co., Winnipeg, at the opening of the Western Fair, 1901.