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Captains of Canadian Industry.

[OWING to the exceedingly heavy pressure on our columns in this issue of the CANADIAN MANUFACTURER, the sketches relating to the "Captains of Industry," whose artotype portraits are here given, are unavoidably omitted, but will be published in our issue of October 5.]

TORONTO'S GREAT FAIR.

NEVER in the history of the Dominion of Canada has such a successful Exhibition been held as that which has just come to a close in this our good city of Toronto. No matter from which standpoint the results may be viewed, the conclusion arrived at must be the same. Its success from a financial point of view has been marvellous, the total receipts at the gates amounting to \$59,354, which shows an increase over last year of \$7,475, and the significance of the above figures is better arrived at when it is remembered that last year was the only occasion of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition receiving the Dominion Government grant of \$10,000, and that it was then surmised by many that the officially Dominion character of last year's Fair had enabled it to reach the maximum of popularity.

From an exhibitor's point of view the verdict is the same, as interviews with almost every exhibitor in the manufacturing departments have assured us that more business has been done, more general satisfaction given and less friction has resulted during the busy days of the past two weeks than since the Industrial Exhibition Association first became a body corporate.

And now for the general public:—what has been their verdict? The attendance during the opening days of the first week proved that its appreciation was great; the opening day of the second week, appropriately named "Citizens' Day," de-

monstrated that its appreciation was greater than on any previous occasion, and when the day of final reckoning came—when the Treasurer handed in his last daily returns—the whole country knew that public appreciation of our truly National Exhibition had been the greatest accorded to any Exhibition ever held within the boundaries of British North America.

The foregoing paragraphs having proved, authoritatively because statistically, that the management, through their wisdom and energy, had achieved success—that the exhibitors, through their enterprise, had achieved success, and that the general public has endorsed by its magnificent attendance the action of both, we do not think that editorial commendation in this paper is necessary, although we cannot let this opportunity pass without defending the management against certain aspersions cast against them by a few who may have resorted to obstructive tactics, through personal pique or some kindred incentive. We have an intimate knowledge of the inner workings of the Industrial Exhibition Association, and experience, born of observation, has taught that the most painstaking and hard-working members of the Board are those who are oftenest attacked. They give their time uncomplainingly, without fee or reward—some of them work harder in the interests of the Association than if personal gain were their object; and although they are illy rewarded by the injudicious complaints of a few, the measure of their estimation in the eyes of the public is most accurately gauged by the lasting place they will occupy in the regard of the citizens, for whom they have done so much.

In conclusion, we depart from our usual practice of rigidly excluding personalities from these columns by writing a few lines in reference to the executive officers. The President of the Association, Mr. J. J. Withrow, has watched, directed and fostered the interests of the Exhibition, through both good and ill repute, until to-day he has guided it into smooth water with such bright prospects for its future that jealousy in some quarters has naturally been aroused. Mr. Withrow, however, is a level-headed business man, and while he may regret any such animus having arisen from obscurity to the surface, he is no doubt well aware that only the inevitable has happened, and that history repeats itself in this connection as it has done in many similar instances since the beginning of creation.

Our pleasure at the position achieved by Mr. H. J. Hill, the Manager and Secretary, is intensified by the fact of our long acquaintance with him in his official capacity and our almost as lengthy personal friendship. No person unacquainted with the difficulties and responsibilities of his position can imagine the thousand and one opportunities he has for creating ill-feeling, nor can they fail to wonder how it is that he gives offence to so comparatively few. The very energy of his manner, resulting from his characteristic forcefulness, may possibly be so construed as to sometimes cause a little friction, but it should be remembered that calm serenity and habitual energy are very difficult to drive in double harness. The following pages will give an excellent account of nearly every important exhibit on the grounds, although several notices have been crowded out and will have to await the publication of our next issue.

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