

THE OUTLOOK

In the vast territory between the Prairie City and the Rockies, lies a Three-Hundred-Million-Acre Farm which produced about four hundred million bushels of grain last year. However, for every acre which is tilled today, there are FIFTEEN ACRES still growing the age-old grasses of the prairies. In 1911 the Wheat Crop of the United States was 650 million bushels, and Russia produced 630 million bushels. Now the question before Western Canada is:— With fifteen times her present acreage only waiting for the plow; and with Immigration feeding her prairies at the rate of a million people within the next two years—how soon will the production of the West exceed last year's total Wheat Crop from the United States and Russia? It would seem to me that progressive old-world settlers—American immigrants—and traction plows, furnish a triple and sufficient cause for A BILLION BUSHELS OF WHEAT, TEN YEARS FROM TODAY.

During 1911 the Prairies swallowed scores of train-loads of Traction-engines; and, this year, Winnipeg will feel the result of those great new energies—coupled up with the activities of the 300,000 Immigrants welcomed last year from the greatest countries of the world. Yet, this year also, the prairies will absorb greater numbers of traction-plows; will again receive almost half-a-million people with the fire of action in their blood; and East and West, Winnipeg Stands at-the-Neck-of-the-Traffic.

Winnipeg's stock yards are today immense; and there are approximately one and a half million Cattle over the prairies. Twenty million head of beef cattle can lose themselves on the Empire pastures of the Prairie Provinces. The live stock industry in the west is full of the grandest possibilities.

What the West has, buried in the future, in people, railways, grain and cattle, will cause the pendulum of dominating influence in Commerce and Finance, to swing westward with the years. And so, today, May finds Financial Winnipeg racing far ahead of the great financial centres in the East; finds structural Winnipeg with already over Six Million Dollars expended since the first of the year; and finds many millions spent by the railroads on big locomotives to operate over Western lines. These activities may be taken as real signs of the times. Winnipeg is doing big things today; but the shadow of a vastly Greater Winnipeg looms up on the horizon of the years.

In the traffic office of the United States Railroad, there is at least one example of the growing interest of the people to the south in the acres of the Canadian West. This man, in addition to watching his traffic, has also his eyes on these prairies; on a particular patch of 4,000 acres—which, by the aid of five traction plows, has taken only 27 days in the breaking. The discs followed the plows, and they, in turn, were followed by the drills.