



SINCE the date of the last notes from Barnardo, Manitoba has passed through an ordeal which has put severely to the test the qualities of her soil in the continued drought, which appears to have afflicted in a sore manner the great territories of the Dakotas and Northern Minnesota in the United States as well ; and on all sides, while our farmers regret a shortage in their crops, we hear them expressing their wonder that vegetation should have continued to exist under the conditions which permitted a rainfall of one and one-half inches only between April 1st and July 1st. However, it not only continued to hold up its head, but maintained a semblance of growth, or, as the homely phrase goes, "held its own." And as regards potatoes and other root crops, the yield on the Manitoba Farm, at least, is likely to outstrip any previous year's record, the long rows of swedes, kohlrabi, white turnips, beets and celery being a sight to make the cattle-feeder and market-man's eyes to shine with pleasure ; indeed, we are now wondering, although the Farm has frost-proof storage for some twelve thousand bushels of roots, where the great crop is to be cared for. In July the rain began to fall, and it was only then the gardens began to make headway, so that really since the seeds began to germinate the growth has been something to astonish even the oldest settlers.

Annual Picnic.

The annual picnic of the residents of the Industrial Farm was held at Millwood on Monday, July 3rd. The weather was all that could be desired, and before 9 a.m. the Home building was without an inmate ; while nine wagons, laden with light-hearted youngsters, were *en route* to Millwood, their progress being easily noted by drum and bugle sounds.

Arrived at the pretty little village, preparations were made at once for the sports, for which entries were immediately made, our friends, Batt and Galloway, impartially entering for the entire list. Mr. St. Lawrence was, as usual, appointed starter.

By way of interlude, lunch was served about noon, before and after which the lads seemed to take a great interest in the stalls belonging to the Millwood Guild, as well as the refreshment tents of Messrs. Toovey & Andrews and others, whose iced beverages proved highly acceptable to the thirsty competitors.

A large number of the old lads and friends of the holiday seekers were on the grounds, who did all in their power to make the day as pleasant as possible ; and later these were supplemented by a number of railway men, who entered into the fun with great spirit and contributed in no small degree to the enjoyment of the day.

These latter were great strapping fellows, and as the Farm Home possessed some bone and muscle