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SOME OF THE DISTRICTS.

For agricultural uses the districts of Moosomin and Qu'Appelle are wonderfully favoured, lying as they do in the great stretch of the fertile belt. The Moosomin district is included in the country between the Manitoba boundary on the east and the second meridian on the west, and is bounded on the north by the valley of the Qu'Appelle River, and on the south by the Pipestone Creek, an ideal range for cattle.

The Qu'Appelle district is that section which lies immediately west of the Moosomin, extending to the height of land at McLean Station on the Canadian Pacific Railway, around to the Beaver Hills, and south almost to the international boundary line. Included in this area are the Pleasant Plains, no less fertile than the famous wheat-growing plains of Manitoba, where crops



Corn-Cutting in Western Canada.

are phenomenally large.

The soil is for the most part loam, covered with about twelve to eighteen inches of black vegetable mould, which after the second ploughing makes a fine seed-bed, easy to work, and most productive. Generally speaking, these remarks apply to all the eastern part of the district. The

Beaver Hills and the Touchwood Hills in the northern part are especially well adapted for stock-raising. Mixed farming has also proved very successful. Most important development has taken place on that portion of the Prince Albert branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway running through Assiniboia. Lumsden, Craik, Girvin, Hanley, and Dundurn are thriving towns, populated mostly by settlers from the United States, some of whom, with commendable thrift and enterprise, have erected splendid buildings in the towns, while others have developed the resources and increased the land values of the country districts. A large acreage has been prepared for next season, and abundant yields are confidently looked for. Although large quantities of land have been disposed of and occupied as homesteads in these districts, there are still innumerable opportunities for settlers to acquire land free from the Government, and at reasonable prices from the railway or land companies. Many of these land companies have agencies in the Western United States and representatives in the principal towns in the vicinity of the lands they offer. Extending back eastward and westward from the points named are large settlements.

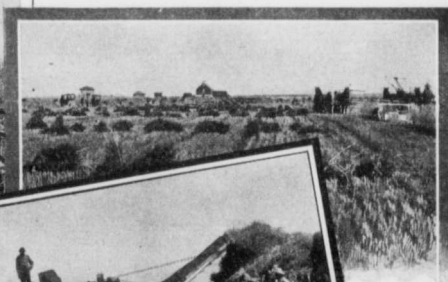
FUEL.

Coal in abundance is found in the south, in the district drained by the Souris River. Sufficient wood for all purposes for many years to come is to be found along the rivers and in the Moose Mountains.

WESTERN ASSINIBOIA.

The foregoing remarks, written of Eastern Assiniboia, apply to a large portion of Western Assiniboia, and also to Saskatchewan and Alberta. Western Assiniboia is entered at McLean Station, and its first considerable town is Regina, the capital of the Northwest Territories. The land here is a rich, fertile loam, as well to the south as to the north.

During the past two years marked development has taken place along the "Soo" Line. Most of this land has been taken up by settlers from the United States, who have "broken"



Harvest and Threshing Time in Western Canada.

large areas. The crops here last season were excellent, and the settlers speak most encouragingly of their prospects. Several new and important towns have sprung into existence along this line, such as Halbrite, Weyburn, Yellow Grass, Milestone, and Rouleau. The cultivation of flax is carried on to a large extent. A number of farmers have paid the entire cost of their farms from the yield of the first crop of flax.

The best testimony to the character of the country that can be given is that those settlers who have been longest in the country are those who are almost yearly enlarging their farms by buying more land, a quarter of a section at a time.