

crease in all field crops is \$25,807,000, the loss in wheat, oats and barley alone is \$40,406,000 leaving a handsome increase in all other field crops.

Our clearing house returns again reflect the great growth in business. The total of the seventeen clearing houses for 1910, two being only a few months old, is \$6,154,000,000, as compared with \$5,204,000,000 for 1909, a gain of eighteen per cent. in the year. There is a gain in every clearing house in Canada, most notably in Edmonton, Calgary, Victoria, Vancouver and Montreal.

The building permits in the four chief cities will illustrate forcibly the growth of Canada. Hundreds of towns and cities would show similar proportions of growth could we but find space in which to give the figures.

	1909.	1910.
Montreal	\$10,713,000	\$15,815,000
Toronto	18,139,000	21,127,000
Winnipeg	9,226,000	15,106,000
Vancouver	7,203,000	13,150,000

With the Montreal figures for 1909 are included municipalities which in 1910 had become a part of the city.

The most curious feature in Canada at the moment is the outbreak from time to time of agitation, stirred up sometimes by guilds, sometimes by strikes, and often by city councils, but always by one set of interests against another. We have a more general prosperity than could readily be found elsewhere, now or in the history of the past. The only people with a just complaint are those whose labor and brains are paid by a more or less fixed recompense, which is not adjusted in accordance with the change in prices. These are the people who, as a rule, do not complain, perhaps, because their fortune is the same in every country. In the case of the majority of our wage-earners there is some adjustment, whether sufficient or not. In any event, the overwhelming bulk of our people share in our prosperity, which, be it remembered, is the result of our combined activities. It is not due to the farmer alone, nor to the mechanic, nor to the railroad, the bank, the manufacturer or the shopkeeper. It is the result of the fortuitous circumstances under which we are enabled by our combined effort to make profitable use of the natural resources of Canada. Is it not, therefore, most regrettable that, instead of each individual finding happiness and contentment in his own prosperity and in his share in building up this country, which is his guarantee of future well-being, we agitate merely that we may still further profit as individuals, even if other Canadian industries are made to lose or are destroyed thereby?

THE MARITIME PROVINCES.

While there is perhaps less change from year to year in the Maritime Provinces than in most parts of Canada, there is a slow but steady improvement in many industries, and the year just closed has been one of marked prosperity. The results from general agriculture have been perhaps the best in the history of this part of Canada, both as to yield and as to price. The value of the field crops of the Maritime Provinces in 1910 was \$50,150,000, compared with \$49,684,000 for 1909. Potatoes suffered so severely from rot, and the yield was so small, that this important crop brought in only about half the usual returns. Apples and other small fruits, excluding berries, were most unsatisfactory—apples being less than one-third of a crop—but in other products, especially hay and grain, crops and prices were so good as to second the admirable efforts of the Agricultural College to impress upon the people how profitable are the results to be obtained from land which is fertile and near to good markets, but which lies idle largely because the people of many parts of these Provinces have been used to other pursuits. In Prince Edward Island dairying and stock-raising are increasing in volume, and have been very profitable during the past year, and the same is true of some parts of Nova Scotia, but in New Brunswick, notwithstanding the higher prices and the fine hay crops, much less cheese and butter is made than five or ten years ago, many less cheese factories and creameries are in operation, and the stock of horses, cattle and sheep is actually less numerous than ten years ago.

The fishing industry, as usual, presents varied features, the total result being satisfactory. The catch on the Banks has been the largest in many years, but that on the Northern Newfoundland and Labrador shore was smaller than usual. The general catch of cod, herring, smelts, oysters, etc., has been very satisfactory; that of lobsters and mackerel unsatisfactory in some places and plentiful in others. The total catch of lobsters turned out well, and

brought good prices. Protection for mackerel and lobsters, however, seems very necessary, and, with this in view, improved methods are being adopted. Prices for dried fish are higher—indeed in Boston the record price since the civil war was paid in November.

The cut of lumber in New Brunswick has been larger than in 1909 and in Nova Scotia, slightly smaller. The market for deals in Great Britain has been satisfactory, but suffered somewhat from the fear of cotton strikes in Manchester. Yards, however, have been cleared out and a good market is expected with the turn of the year, now that the elections in Great Britain are over. Markets for pine, both abroad and in the United States, are very good, but in spruce only first-class grades find a satisfactory market in the United States, and a considerable amount of low-grade stock will be carried over. Latin-American markets are good. For hardwoods, piling and pulp there is a sufficient demand. There is a growing appreciation of the great and permanent value of timber lands under intelligent management, and Nova Scotia has adopted the policy of holding the timber-bearing Crown lands and of selling only the stumpage.

In almost all manufacturing industries there has been an improvement during the year, and the output of coal is now approaching the normal amount after the severe strikes. In the last ten years the increase in the shipments to the St. Lawrence has been about 100 per cent., which gives some idea of the necessity of that market to the miners of Nova Scotia. The output of coal for 1909 was more than our estimate a year ago, being 5,106,000 tons. For 1910 the estimate is 5,850,000 tons, all but a trifling portion being produced in Nova Scotia. In steel-making it is claimed that improved methods of manufacturing will offset the approaching termination of the bounties. The quantity produced in Nova Scotia is slightly larger than in 1909, with higher prices. The outlook for 1911 is good, notwithstanding the fact that the quantity produced in the United States is likely to be smaller than usual, with lower prices. Large additions to plants are being made with a view to increasing the output.

ONTARIO AND QUEBEC.

A year ago, despite some fluctuations in conditions, the record of agriculture in Ontario and Quebec was most satisfactory. This year the record is still better, and it is questionable if, as regards yield or prices, excepting in the case of fruit, potatoes and one or two minor articles, a more generally successful result was ever obtained by our farmers. High prices in 1909 had caused a larger acreage of grain to be planted, farm work began early in the spring, fall wheat came through the winter well, harvest results were excellent, hay gave a large yield, roots in most localities did well, cattle, horses, hogs, poultry, eggs and all dairy products brought high prices, but the supply was unfortunately always insufficient. The value of the field crops of Ontario and Quebec for 1910 was \$301,109,000, compared with \$290,469,000 for 1909.

Although in the fruit districts where apple-growing is carried on scientifically as fine apples were produced as could be desired, the crop as a whole was as great a failure in Ontario as in the Maritime Provinces. In neither district can accurate statistics be obtained, but the quantity shipped from Montreal is sufficient to show what a bad crop means. In 1910 the shipments were only 163,000 barrels, there being no recent year comparable with this except 1901, when shipments were only 122,000 barrels. The highest figure reached was in 1903, 732,000 barrels, and the average of eight ordinary years was about 515,000 barrels. Doubtless no care would have averted the main cause of a lessened crop, but with scientific methods the number and size of the apples would always be greatly increased and the quality greatly improved.

We used to be able to follow closely the growth of our dairying industry by using the figures of the shipments of cheese and butter from Montreal as examples, but new conditions have arisen and these figures are now of little use. The consumption of butter in Canada and of cream in Canada and the United States has practically destroyed our foreign trade in butter, which one year reached 573,449 packages, valued at \$7,400,000. The same causes have kept our cheese exports almost stationary for three or four years. The figures for 1910 are 1,892,000 boxes, worth \$17,503,000, as against the record of 2,395,932 boxes in 1903 valued at \$21,500,000. One great departmental store collects direct from the farmers sufficient milk to keep several cheese factories busy.

Successful as the year has been with the farmers of the