

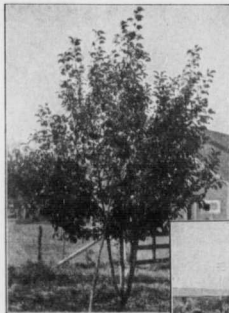
year, but the higher price made the crop of 1903 as profitable as that of 1902. The rapid expansion of the Province is mirrored in these figures.

There was also a satisfactory growth of the dairying industry, and increasing interest was manifested in mixed farming, largely due to growth in population.

It is worthy of note that during the winter of 1902-3, 13,986 head of cattle were fattened, and that the number of milch cows in the Province was 126,846. The large number of milch cows is attributable to the growing interest taken in dairying, which has proved to be wonderfully profitable.

THE CITY OF WINNIPEG.

Probably no better idea of the prosperity of the country can be obtained than may be gained by a visit to the city of Winnipeg, to which it seems impossible for writers to do justice in ordinary terms of praise. This capital, often spoken of as the "Chicago of Canada," certainly occupies a prominent position amongst the cities of the continent. It is practically the gateway of the West, and a metropolis of over 70,000 inhabitants—in all respects a city of magnificent promise, that gives evidence of a strong and strenuous life. In commercial possibilities Winnipeg is great. It has electric railways, wide streets, well-kept boulevards, fine pavements, and the best of other improvements. During the past year no less than \$5,000,000 worth of buildings were erected, many of them such as would do credit to Montreal. The jobbing interests and the mercantile business enterprises are all flourishing.



Heavily Laden Appletree in Manitoba.



Corner of a Manitoba Vegetable Garden.

A LAND OF GREAT POSSIBILITIES.

It is a difficult matter to draw faithful pen pictures of this magnificent agricultural country; words but faintly describe it. A personal visit is the only means of securing a true perspective. On all sides and as far as the eye can reach are great fields of wheat, oats, and barley. Prosperous-looking farm houses are everywhere, with great lines of elevators fringing the horizon. This is literally a land of promise to the farmer, and it is no cause for wonder that it is filling up with men who realize the possibilities it offers.

A PROLIFIC COUNTRY.

"A field of wheat at the Van Horne farm, East Selkirk, has been the cause of a great deal of admiration. It was just at the station, and in view of hundreds of people daily. Those who saw the field after it was cut were not backward in saying that the shocks were the largest of any they had ever seen, and that was saying a great deal in this prolific country. A few days ago this field was threshed out, and the yield from the machine was forty-eight bushels to the acre."—*Newspaper Extract.*

A gentleman thoroughly conversant with conditions in Manitoba for many years recently said:

"The rich soil and favourable climatic conditions are here as a bank account, upon which present farmers in the Province are

not yet drawing more than a portion of the interest accruing from year to year. Only when 20,000,000 acres of our heritage are actually cropped shall we realize what the account to our credit is; 4,000,000 acres are now under cultivation. These lands can still be purchased at from \$5 to \$40 an acre. Resident farmers, whose lands are valued to-day at from \$15 to \$40 an acre, are realizing a revenue from the same equal to 7 per cent on an investment of more than double this value."

PROFITS TO BE REALIZED.

Areas under wheat in 1902 gave a clear profit of over \$6 an acre. The average yield was 26 bushels, which at 55 cents per bushel gave a return of \$14.30 per acre. It is conceded that all the labor of ploughing, seeding, harvesting, and marketing can be hired done at \$7.50 per acre. Even allowing \$8, there is a balance of \$6.30 clear profit. This means a revenue of 7 per cent on land worth \$90 per acre. Farmers who make this profit can rest assured that their lands will rise in value from year to year, a fact which sets a premium on farsightedness and enterprise as well as upon industry.

The products of the farms—wheat, coarse grains, meat, dairy products, poultry, and eggs—are all tangible commodities that are required to supply daily wants. Prices of these may fluctuate, but never can a farmer become ruinously overstocked with any one or more of them.

MIXED FARMING PAYS.

While it is grain-growing that has given Manitoba agriculture so well-deserved a prominence in the eyes of the world, the heaven of mixed farming is gradually but surely permeating the minds of farmers. The general trend of surplus capital and energy is in that direction. If Ontario and the States of the American Union, which at one time were noted for their grain-growing, have changed off to stock breeding and dairying, and if their lands still are valued at from \$60 to \$100 per acre, there is no reason why Western Canada lands may not be equally valuable in the production of such products.

STOCKERS.

The ever-increasing demand for stockers to be put upon ranches in the Territories gives an impetus to cattle-raising in the Province. Manitoba farmers provide the necessary shelter for wintering cattle, and the immense crop of coarse grains and fodder so easily raised supplies the necessary food for all stock under shelter. There is no doubt but that Manitoba for many years will be the recruiting ground to supply ranches with stockers, and it is only a question of time until Manitoba farmers, with an enlarged supply of farm help, will direct their attention more and more to the winter-feeding of fat cattle.

THE HOMESEAKER'S OPPORTUNITY.

Manitoba's population is largely English-speaking. As a rule, people with means, and those satisfied with existing conditions, do not move; and it follows that the settlers of Manitoba have not brought large bank accounts with them. The man who has