

## ECHOES FROM THE WEST

The Calgary, Alberta, Spring Show and annual Cattle Sale has come and gone, and we find that there is ample room for the introduction of both Short-horn and white-faced steers that are lower down on their legs and conform more closely to the ideal beef type. The day of the long-horned, long-legged steer is past, and if cattle from the ranches are to be finished in this country for the British market, it is essential that they be of the right type to start with.

A very interesting feature of the week at Calgary was the competition in stock judging. The competitors in these classes had already competed in their home towns and won first honors. Their expenses to Calgary were borne by the Provincial Government.

The Department of Agriculture is to be congratulated on the splendid pioneer work they are doing along this line of education. To have purchased two cars of pure-bred stock and kept them moving from point to point for the purpose of illustration, during such a winter as has just closed, says much for the executive ability of the Deputy Minister and the Superintendent of Institutes and Fairs.

### HOW THE WEST GROWS

Here are some items picked at random from western exchanges; they tell the marvelous tale of western development.

During the month of March, 1907, homestead entries were taken out in the Calgary office representing 15,520 acres of land taken up in that district by new settlers in the course of one month.

Although only one year and nine months old, the town of Strathburg, Sask., has a population of 471 and is seeking incorporation.

A 40 horse power boiler, a 30 horse power engine and 30,000 feet of hose have reached Alberta for the American Canadian Oil Company. The company has 30,000 acres at Egg Lake, near Morinville, and this new equipment will enable them to bore to a depth of 3,000 feet. The section is known to be rich in oil.

Saskatoon, Sask., has decided upon plans for a \$38,000 hospital to be erected this summer. The town has also decided to purchase two more fire hall sites, two steel garbage wagons and a street sprinkler.

### THE CATTLE TRADE

Although the actual spring round up will be the final test of the losses of cattle during the past winter, it is nevertheless pretty well established that the loss will not exceed 10 per cent. But even this will make a serious difference in the supply of range cattle. The ranges were well cleaned up last fall of all steers fit for export at that time. The losses of this winter will but hasten the day of the stock farm that will replace the big ranches of the past.

Some years ago the whole territory between Calgary and Medicine Hat was held by probably 30 cattle men; to-day probably two thousand men have ranches in the district. Where 20 men used to own 20,000 cattle, to-day 10,000 men own 20,000. This will tend to prevent the recurrence of the conditions of the past winter, but in the meantime cattle are decidedly scarce in the range country and prices will rule high.

The receipts at the Winnipeg Stock Yards are not more than half what they were at the same time last year, and the demand is good. Receipts of sheep have been abnormally small this winter, but in another two weeks the market will begin to receive those which have

been fattened on screenings during the past winter. The largest venture of this kind is the 9,000 being fed at Port Arthur. Several thousand more are being fed at Moosehead and there are bunches of 200 and 300 all up and down Manitoba. This practice of feeding sheep on screenings has only been followed for the past three years, but it has proved such a success that it will be carried on more and more extensively in the years to come. More would have been fed this year but it was impossible to get the range sheep. Indeed, large numbers have been brought in from the United States and 20,000 were brought in by one firm from Australia. This suggests possibilities of sheep breeding for the future.

The situation is very much the same in regard to hogs. The ruling price for live hogs off cars at Winnipeg for months past has been \$7.00 per cwt. and receipts are not one-tenth of requirements at the present time. The ideal condition in the country would be for every farmer to raise sheep and hogs as well as cattle, and the time is coming when this will be done, but at present the door of opportunity along these lines is very wide open to the enterprising man.

### THE DAIRY SUPPLY

Butter is scarce in the City of Winnipeg and throughout the entire Province of Manitoba and the Canadian West generally, than it has been for years. Creamery butter is especially scarce, as owing to the breaking up of country roads cream hauling is extremely difficult. The milk supply at the dairies is coming in very slowly and many of the cows are late this season.

Eggs are almost as scarce as butter and really it does seem that the demand for these articles and their general scarcity is an indication of the chance there is for farmers, say, from the eastern provinces, who have been accustomed to dairy and poultry farming, to make a start here in the West. There is a home market for all that can be raised for a very long time to come.

### AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH WORK

The faculty of Manitoba Agricultural College is seeking to extend the work of the college during the coming summer by an association to be known as the Manitoba Agricultural College Research Association. Among the questions to be gone into by this association, prominence is to be given to the growing of clovers, and fifty college students took home with them from the winter term sufficient medium red clover seed to plant one acre. These plots will be observed with much care and results carefully and fully tested. Clover now grows quite luxuriantly in some places in the province, but it is not generally cultivated and this distribution of seed should help to stimulate a rivalry and create keen competition.

### HORSES AT THE WINNIPEG INDUSTRIAL

The management of the Winnipeg Industrial are offering an inter-provincial prize this year for the best ten pure-bred horses owned in any province. It is expected that there will be competing teams from Alberta, Saskatchewan, British Columbia and Manitoba, and this would give 50 heavy horses in the ring at one time. If the provinces take up the matter in the same spirit in which the prizes are offered, it will surely be an exhibition worth going very far to see.

### The Young Man's Chance

By JAMES J. HILL, President of the Great Northern Railway, born in Wellington County, Ontario, and to-day one of the world's greatest railroad men and nation builders.

In nine cases out of ten opportunity makes the man. The great problem is to recognize opportunity in whatever guise she comes. Some people with fatalistic complacency seem to think that sooner or later their chance will hunt them out with its old self, or insistently upon them as to force recognition and acceptance. Other people work on the supposition that there is an opportunity for them somewhere, but that it is distinctly their task to find it. They force matters by diligently and unceasingly seeking opportunity.

Not so many years ago Horace Greeley said to all young men who were seeking a chance to grow up, "Go West, and grow up with the country." The West which lies north of the boundary line is just as big and offers just as many opportunities as the West to which Greeley referred. In fact, if he were alive to-day, instead of advising the young man to go West, he might say: "Go Northwest and grow up with the country." And by Northwest he would mean Western Canada.

Canada is growing; it is doing things. A country that is growing and doing things offers the best fields for the labor of the young man. Take the City of Winnipeg. The law of nature that demanded and decreed the growth of such a city incorporated in her charter the condition that she should not be smaller than her opportunity, or fall below the level of her trust. It is the country which makes a city, and Winnipeg has at her back a country big enough and rich enough to support more people than are contained in all of the Dominion. Winnipeg's opportunity means the young man's opportunity.

It is the certain fate and fortune of Canada to grow great through the efforts of young men. It is a country of enormous possibilities for development, inhibited to-day by less than six million people. It has one transcontinental line already and several other great projects under way. It has a foreign trade of only a little short of \$500,000,000. Its capital invested in manufactures is over \$400,000,000, and the annual value of the product is \$480,000,000. It has achieved its great growth without outside aid, exactly as the United States has grown by virtue of its inheritance of fertile lands, rich mines and noble forests, and by the industry and integrity of its people; and it is only in the beginning of its development.

Canada has a system of waterways which is justly its pride. The St. Lawrence system of canals furnishes forty-three miles of channel to reinforce river and lake. The Welland Canal completes the chain. Now comes its most ambitious project, one in which every lake city has a stake. This is the proposed ship canal from Lake Huron to the St. Lawrence. When completed it will reduce the distance from Georgian Bay to Montreal to 430 miles, nearly three hundred miles less than the present route by way of Lake Erie and the St. Lawrence River.

Here is the land for the worker, the land of promise and opportunity for the newcomer. He who toils may win, and he who shirks must go empty-handed.

Look up our western land offers on page 431 this issue. They are worth knowing about.

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