

rising of Japan, from the portentous increase of Russian power in north-eastern Asia, it is impossible to predict. But whatever the gravity of the issue, whatever the danger or whatever the opportunity, it is a matter of vital importance to Great Britain that she has a highway from the Atlantic to the Pacific through a land that proudly bears aloft her flag. When with a few other spectators, said the Dean, I saw the first through train to Vancouver leave the station at Montreal. I strongly realized that Canada had become an important factor in the trade and the politics of the world.

CANADA AS A WHEAT-GROWING COUNTRY.

Said Dean Carmichael, before I recently travelled through the country west of Lake Superior I loved Canada; now I glory in it, in its power, resources and promise. We know the value of the great wood-land country; but it is impossible to overestimate the riches of the vast prairie land—through which for days we travel by steam—fertile, well-watered, inexhaustible. Near Brandon I drove through a one thousand acre field of wheat, where it was just possible to see the horses' heads and backs above the luxuriant grain. Yet Manitoba is but a small Province. Five hundred thousand square miles of fertile territory, drained by the Saskatchewan and the Peace River into Lakes Winnipeg and Athabasca, would support 30,000,000 of inhabitants. We only need population to become the greatest wheat-growing country of the world.

IMMIGRATION.

The great need of our immense North-West is population. To an onlooker it appears as though we had done nothing to encourage immigration. The number of immigrants entering the United States by the port of New York alone exceeds by many times all who enter Canada. There every effort is made to attract desirable additions to the population. Here our immigration officers are dingy and ill-appointed. And yet money invested in encouraging immigration is most profitably invested. In ten years the Canadian Government expended \$3,000,000 on immigration; during the same time immigrants brought into the Dominion wealth estimated to amount to \$22,000,000.