

THE COMMERCIAL IN NORTH-WESTERN ONTARIO.

FORT WILLIAM.

Fort William is situated on the Kaministiquia river, a stream navigable for several miles inland by the largest lake steamers. This town was incorporated in July, 1891, and has now a population of 4,500, and owns its own electric light and water systems, which, it is claimed, cannot be excelled anywhere in Canada. It has also electric street car service along its main business street. This service is supplied by the town of Port Arthur, which runs cars on schedule time from Port Arthur to

transacted at Fort William and Port Arthur by other lines of steamers, such as the Beattie, the Northern Navigation Co., the Duluth and Superior, Wisconsin, as well as by a large number of vessels owned by private parties.

Fort William also possesses two good brick yards, fitted with the most improved machinery, a large saw-mill, a cold storage warehouse, owned by Gordon, Ironsides & Fares, Winnipeg, and Smith Bros.' wholesale fruit and produce business. Four-

has seen the various international exhibits, but who also looks into the question seriously, the real significance of this fact will offer a very wide field for thought and study. Almost all other countries exhibiting in this class were awarded gold medals, (various awards to private exhibitors will be made public later on) but Canada has secured the one and only Grand Prix, the highest possible award.

The average Canadian, no matter where he hails from, no matter what part of Canada he lives in, is in-

ada has had many gratifying surprises within the past six or seven years and the exceptional "growth" in the Dominion of all industries, principally owing to the discovery of extraordinary mineral wealth in the extreme western portion of the country, has perhaps led Canadians generally to discount the fact that in one of our very oldest ones we still have the nucleus of trade which by careful development of the natural resources from which it springs may of itself alone make us one of the great commercial communities of the world.



C. P. R. Station and General Offices, Fort William



Town Hall, Fort William.

West Fort William, a distance of eight miles, giving a very satisfactory service. Fort William is well supplied with stores, carrying large and well assorted stocks of merchandise, and has two of two chartered banks, the Ontario bank and the Bank of Montreal, and a private bank of Kay, Street & Co., which was started over ten years ago and was the first at this point. C. W. Jarvis, the mayor of Fort William, is the manager of this latter bank.

Fort William owes its existence as a town largely to the C. P. R. Co., although its natural advantage as a shipping point was the real cause for its being chosen by this company as the western port for its line of lake steamers and as a railway divisional point between Eastern and Western Canada. This is the point at which the bulk of the grain from Manitoba and the Northwest Territories is unloaded from the cars either for storage in the elevators or shipment by boat. The C. P. R. Co. has four large grain elevators here with a total capacity of 5,250,000 bushels, as follows: Elevator "A" 1,250,000 bushels, "B" 1,300,000 bushels, "C" 1,200,000 bushels and "D" (steel tank storage) 1,500,000 bushels, and it is understood that money has been voted for a new cleaning elevator of 1,000,000 bushels capacity to be erected next year. Elevator "D" is built further up stream than the others. It is of steel throughout and comprises twenty-four separate cylindrical tanks. The special feature of this elevator is that it entirely overcomes the danger of loss from fire, dampness, insects or rats, and as the tanks are air tight, the grain cannot heat or shrink while in store. This means a large saving in the matter of insurance and the loss from shrinkage, both of great moment in the storage of grain. The Ogilvie Milling Co. had commenced work on a large flour mill and grain elevator at this place, but work has been suspended for the present. The mill is to have a capacity of 2,500 bbls. per day and the elevator storage room for 750,000 bushels of grain.

The C. P. R. Co. has very extensive shops, yards and docks and employs a large staff of men. Its docks are over 5,000 feet in length, the coal docks alone being 1,200 feet, while the freight sheds cover an area of over 100,000 square feet. There is also an immense shipping business

teen school teachers are employed, and a high school was opened on the first of January this year. For fire protection, hydrants in connection with the water system have been placed at convenient points throughout the town and a voluntary brigade of eighteen men is kept up with the usual equipment of engine, hose wagons, etc. The assessable property amounts to upwards of \$500,000, with about \$1,000,000 belonging to the C. P. R., Graham, Horne & Co.'s saw-mill, etc., which is exempt. The rate is 26 mills.

Canada at Paris.

Paris, Aug. 10.—It may, perhaps, be considered a matter of secondary importance (merely a two-line "item" in the "latest dispatches") to the average inhabitant of British Columbia, or other parts of Canada, that Canada in direct and open competition with all other countries has carried off the highest award given for forestry exhibits at the Paris exhibition, but to anyone, who, not only

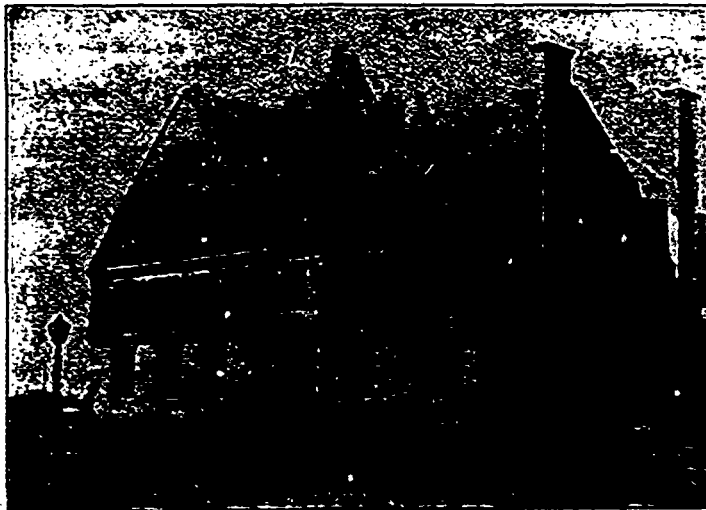
tensely patriotic. He delights to believe in Canada and think that Canada is, at least in natural resources, the greatest country on earth. There are times however, when one's faith wavers, and when in spite of natural patriotic feeling doubt creeps in and one is tempted into the belief that his ideas are utopian. It is more gratifying, therefore, to be convinced by facts that in one particular at any rate such is not the case. Can-

I allude, of course, to our lumber and kindred industries.

A visit to the forestry building of the International Exhibition here is a trip which I take the liberty of advising every Canadian at Paris to make. Going in he may feel small—the building is very large—coming out he will feel too big for the building. After having flapped my wings and crowded, it may be well to explain how and why Canada has so come to the front here. The facts (for cold blooded facts they are) may be of use and interest. I sincerely hope they will and I will endeavor to make them plain.

The Canadian exhibit of forestry products is not in the main Canadian building near the Trocadero, but on the other side of the Seine in a special building devoted to international exhibits of products of lumber and fishing industries of the world. It is one of the largest and most attractive buildings in the entire exhibition and before going any further I may say that if Canada had spent as much on its exhibits as other competing countries it would not only have taken the first prize, but placed every other country completely in the shade.

The Canadian exhibit itself is a collective one made by the Dominion government, that is by the Canadian commission to the World's Fair, under the chairmanship of Hon. Sydney Fisher, minister of agriculture. When the commission was appointed, the various provinces and the principal manufacturers of lumber and wood products throughout the Dominion were asked to contribute. Practically speaking, the only provinces which co-operated officially in a hearty and practical way were British Columbia, Manitoba and Quebec. As regards



Kaministiquia Hotel, Fort William.