most concerned, should be obtained before such a policy is decided upon. Judging from their attitude towards Winnipeg's request, they would likely be agreeable.



WINNIPEG is getting more and more determined about this Selkirk celebration in 1912. It no wproposes to raise a million dollars itself. Half a million is to be raised by a civic grant. The City Council has decided to petition the Legislature for power to submit a by-law to raise this half-million. A similar amount is to be raised by public subscription for the stock in an exhibition company. The three provinces most concerned will contribute a half million in buildings and exhibits, making a total local contribution of one and a half million. Two and a half million from the sale of free-grant lands now owned by the Dominion Government would bring the total up to four millions. It looks somewhat extravagant, but if the West wants it and thinks it advisable, their wishes should be considered.



L ATER returns from the various provinces show that the Canadian harvest of 1909 is even larger than anticipated. The total grain crop will amount to 350,000,000 bushels, by far the largest in the Dominion's history. Further, the quality of the grain is slightly better than usual, thus giving it a higher value than in other years. For example, Saskatchewan wheat grades 92.95 as against 61 last year, and Alberta spring wheat grades 89.05 as against 77. A large crop, of high quality, selling at unusually high prices, spells prosperity of an extraordinary kind.



R OMAN Catholic writers who speak of the work of Protestants among the Ruthenians in the West as "wolves ravaging the sheep-fold" are not advancing the great cause of Christianity. To speak of another church in these words is unwise: "The Greeks are sending renegade priests as well as their own schismatic kind among them." Yet these two statements appear in the Catholic Register of September 30th. Surely the time has gone by when Protestants and Roman Catholics are to regard each other as enemies of mankind and of religious progress.

Equally unwise are the remarks of the Orange Sentinel when it speaks as follows: "How foolish it would be to neglect the multitude of ignorant and dependent people who are eager to escape the tyranny and superstition of their ancient forms of religion! The design of the Roman Church is to prevent their assimilation, to foster their national tongues and customs, to keep them ignorant and dependent on herself, and thereby to make them so many pawns for her use on the political chess-board." Surely the Orangemen of Ontario are not so embittered as to encourage such language in their official organ. That the writings of Roman Catholic critics of Protestant missionary

actions are equally strong is neither a complete nor a satisfactory answer.

There is plenty of work among Canada's new settlers for both Protestants and Roman Catholics, and there should be no quarreling. Even if it were not inimical to the Christian spirit, it would be forbidden by the national importance of giving these newcomers adequate educational, social and religious advantages. Canada has little to fear from either Protestant or Roman Catholic, but it has much to fear from those who have no religion and who have moral standards far below those to which we are accustomed on this continent. Let Protestant and Roman Catholic unite in solving the greatest social problem which this country has ever been called upon to face.

THE Winnipeg Telegram continues its attack upon the idea of a Canadian navy built in Canada. It reiterates its opinion that a Canadian navy cannot be built in this country without graft and "illicit profits," and that even when it is built it will be but a "toy." It will be a small isolated unit, of no value either to Canada or Great Britain. Even after it is in commission, Canada will still be forced to rely for protection on the British navy. It concludes:

"Would it be possible to conceive of anything more unmanly, more inconsistent with Canadian dignity? Canada's dependence on the British navy is to change not in reality but merely in form. We are to spend money for naval purposes it is true, but the main motive is to reap the incidental benefits of the expenditure without regard to the effectiveness of the fleet as a national safeguard or as an auxiliary to the British navy."

These remarks are quoted because it is well that the country should recognise that there is not a unanimous opinion in favour of the Government's scheme. The Winnipeg Telegram represents an important section of the public and its views must be considered. It is quite true that this Conservative journal is not in line with the view of Mr. Borden, the Conservative leader. In a recent address at Halifax, Mr. Borden declared that "out of our own materials, by our own labour and by the instructed skill of our own people, any necessary provision for our own naval defence should be made." Mr. Borden thinks such a policy would give stimulus and encouragement to the ship-building industry. He, however, agrees to some extent with the Winnipeg Telegram in that he doubts if the Government will do the work without corruption and mismanagement.

It is unfortunate that the record of both Conservatives and Liberals at Ottawa gives colour to the suggestion that there may be too much politics and too little business method in the new shipbuilding era. It is quite possible that there may be some "graft" in connection with the undertaking. He would be a daring gambler who would make a wager that such would not occur. Nevertheless this is a feature of our public life which should be fought by itself, mainly through an extension of Civil Service Reform. To say that we shall stop undertaking public work because some politician may get a "rake-off" seems, to us, somewhat ridiculous.





THE APPLE-PICKERS IN THE FRUIT PROVINCES