

who are the mainstay of the Western States. Most of them are experienced farmers, and have that degree of solidity and responsibility which family ties and the possession of some property ordinarily give. The result has been to make the business men of Western Canada unusually sanguine in temperament. Prosperity is a fixed thing with practically every man who in any way has his finger on the business pulse. The West is going ahead with strides, and is largely responsible for the unprecedented progress made by Canada during the last decade.

That there should be such development in the West is the most natural outcome of a happy combination of circumstances. It has practically inexhaustible resources. The countless arable acres are being settled rapidly and principally by experienced, intelligent Anglo-Saxon farmers. The amount of capital invested has been increased by millions within the past few years so that mining and foresting keep pace with the cultivation of land. Vast acres of paper pulp-wood, so much required in the United States, have been discovered from the interior of Labrador to far-away Alaska. On 900,000 acres under cultivation out of 205,000,000 acres of arable land in the North-West, Canada holds a leading place in the world as a grain-producing country. The Territorial Department of Agriculture has issued a bulletin which estimates the total wheat crop for this year at 15,042,000 bushels, an increase over last year of 1,085,150 bushels. And this is on the acreage of only 727,998, with millions of available acres. The average yield will be over twenty bushels to the acre, showing fertility that is much more productive than agricultural sections in the United States. The acreage mentioned represents an increase over last year of 102,241, largely owing to the influx of Americans, and an increase over the previous year of 223,301. Not only will the total yield be the greatest in the history of Canada, but it will be lighter than last year, which indicates that with next year as a good year the yield will be phenomenally large. But the crop is not confined to wheat. It has been officially estimated that the 365,719 acres of oats

under cultivation will produce 11,803,000 bushels this year, an increase over 1901, the best year, of 689,934 bushels. The estimated yield of barley is 1,116,300 bushels on 42,445 acres, an increase of 345,883 bushels with an increase of 6,000 acres sown with barley. Flax is the best yet, having an acreage of 27,599, an increase of 10,532 over last year. The estimated crop is 234,500 bushels, against 258,185 bushels last year.

The pulp industry promises to be one of the principal factors in the development of Canada, more especially because paper pulp-wood is becoming so scarce and consequently so valuable in the United States. The forests of that country, it is estimated, are being destroyed at the rate of 25,000 acres per day, of which fires, recklessness of woodsmen and the wood-pulp manufacturers, take the greater portion, and the legitimate uses of the forests are diminished. Unless drastic measures are taken, the woodlands of the United States will be things of the past within the lifetime of a generation. On the other hand, the supply of pulp-wood in Canada is practically limitless, and, moreover, through where it is mostly found, around the Hudson Bay, there is available water-power everywhere, so that there are natural and admirable facilities for paper manufacture. The forests of pulp-wood extend from the interior of Labrador to Alaska. The area of the pulp-wood forest is estimated roughly at 450,000,000 acres, which, if even it is not exactly correct, will convey some idea as to the vastness of this invaluable Canadian resource. The United States has drawn largely upon this supply, and the demand is increasing every year.

The crowning evidence of the prosperous past and the hopeful future of Canada as seen in the West, is the projected trans-continental railroad. Nothing has been so effective in opening the eyes of our American cousins to the immediate possibilities of their neighbor, which is looming up as a country that promises soon to be the equal of their own in more ways than territorially. The unparalleled increase in trade for the last decade has simply forced the hands of the Government in the matter of taking into