

and seeding seasons. In 1893, however, the total crop area was increased to 1,555,262 acres, of which 1,000,000 was devoted to wheat. This year about the usual increase is expected again in the crop area, if the spring season is an average one. One feature of the wheat crop of last year which may be noted, is its uniformly high quality. Only ten per cent. of the total crop, so far as it has been handled, has been classed in the low grades, 90 per cent. being high quality, the bulk of it grading No. 1 hard.

The export grain trade of Manitoba has come into existence since 1880. In 1881, by which time the country had been opened to railway communication with the outside world, the exports of wheat were placed at about 250,000 bushels. The following shows the exports for a series of years since and including 1886 from Manitoba and adjacent territory to the west:

WHEAT EXPORTS, INCLUDING FLOUR.

Crop 1886.....	4,000,000 bushels.
" 1887.....	10,500,000 "
" 1888.....	4,000,000 "
" 1889.....	4,500,090 "
" 1890.....	11,500,000 "
" 1891.....	14,000,000 "
" 1892.....	14,000,000 "

Exports for 1893 are not complete yet, but will probably show some reduction compared with 1892.

IMMIGRATION FROM THE UNITED STATES.

A NOTEWORTHY feature of immigration during 1893 has been the movement from the United States to Western Canada. Until last year Canada received very little increase in population from the United States, especially in agricultural settlers. The intimate trade intercourse between the two countries led to the settlement here of quite a number of United States citizens, but as agricultural settlers, we received very few of them. However, during 1892 a few parties found their way to the prairie region of Western Canada, and these have reported so favorably upon the country that quite a movement of agricultural settlers from the United States to our prairies has taken place during 1893. This is very gratifying to note, and indicates that for the future we may count upon receiving a much larger number of settlers from this source. When the reports sent home from a few who came in 1892 led to such an increased number coming the following year, we may expect a larger increase for 1894.

The new settlers who have arrived here from the United States come mostly from the border and central western states. It is worthy of note that the extreme northeastern state of Maine and the far northwestern state of Washington have contributed quite a number. Michigan, Nebraska and the Dakotas, more particularly South Dakota, have sent quite a number, while a few have come from other parts. The states named, however, have contributed the majority.

These settlers will be welcome in Canada. They will find themselves perfectly at home here from the start, for they will have little to learn to adapt themselves to our institutions. The language they already have, and any differences in our political and social customs are so trifling as to require no serious consideration. Those who come from the prairie states will also be familiar with prairie farming, and they will be able to take hold here like old-timers, without having to change their style of cultivation materially.

OPENING FOR INVESTMENT.

ANY one looking for an investment might look into the possibility of establishing a salt industry in Manitoba. There is salt in Manitoba in different sections, but so far it has not been manufactured here for general commercial purposes. In the early days, before the advent of railways, the salt consumed in the Red River settlement was manufactured at home, though to be sure the industry was carried on in a crude way and on a limited scale. But at 25c per pound—the retail price in those early days—there was no doubt money in the business. We have retrograded in the salt industry, however, for with increased communication with the outside world and lower freight rates, the home article has disappeared from the market.

The quantity of salt consumed in the country should now be sufficient to enable the industry of salt manufacture to be resumed here on a profitable basis. There is no doubt of the existence of salt in its natural state in workable shape. The heavy freight expenses upon the imported article and that brought from eastern Canada would provide a large measure of protection in favor of the home manufacture of salt. It does not require a great deal of capital to manufacture salt. At any rate the matter is worth while looking into by any one open for an enterprise which would require but a moderate amount of capital. The present wholesale price of salt in this market ranges from \$1.90 to \$3.50 per barrel, as to quality. Large quantities of salt are now required for other purposes, as well as the Lake Winnipeg fisheries, which latter alone take 100 car loads each season. The cost of the commoner grades of salt here is mostly made up of freight charges, which amount to more than the original cost of the article at point of manufacture.

MANITOBA FISHERIES.

A STATEMENT, compiled by an authority in Selkirk, regarding the fisheries of Lake Winnipeg, is given below. This is an industry the value of which is not yet fully appreciated by the general public. The summer catch for 1893 is as follows:—

Manitoba Fish Co.....	700 tons.
Booth Fishing Co.....	600 "
Selkirk Fish Co.....	300 "
Reid & Tait.....	200 "

Total..... 1,800

This represents 120 cars of 30,000 pounds each. The winter catch added to this would represent a total value of about \$250,000.

Manitoba waters are teeming with fish, the favorite variety being whitefish, which are found in Lakes Winnipeg, Manitoba, and other lakes. This is undoubtedly the finest fish that swims in fresh water. Other varieties of fish are pike, pickerel, sturgeon, trout, perch, mullet, tullibees, goldeyes, and several other kinds. The Lake Winnipeg fish are largely exported to the United States.

Some people imagine that as Manitoba is an inland region, there can be no fishing industry of importance. They fail, however, to comprehend the magnitude of our lakes. Lake Winnipeg, for instance, is really a vast body of water, nearly 300 miles long.

During the past year a fish hatchery was established at Selkirk by the Dominion government, with the object of assisting in keeping up the supply of our favorite food fishes.