

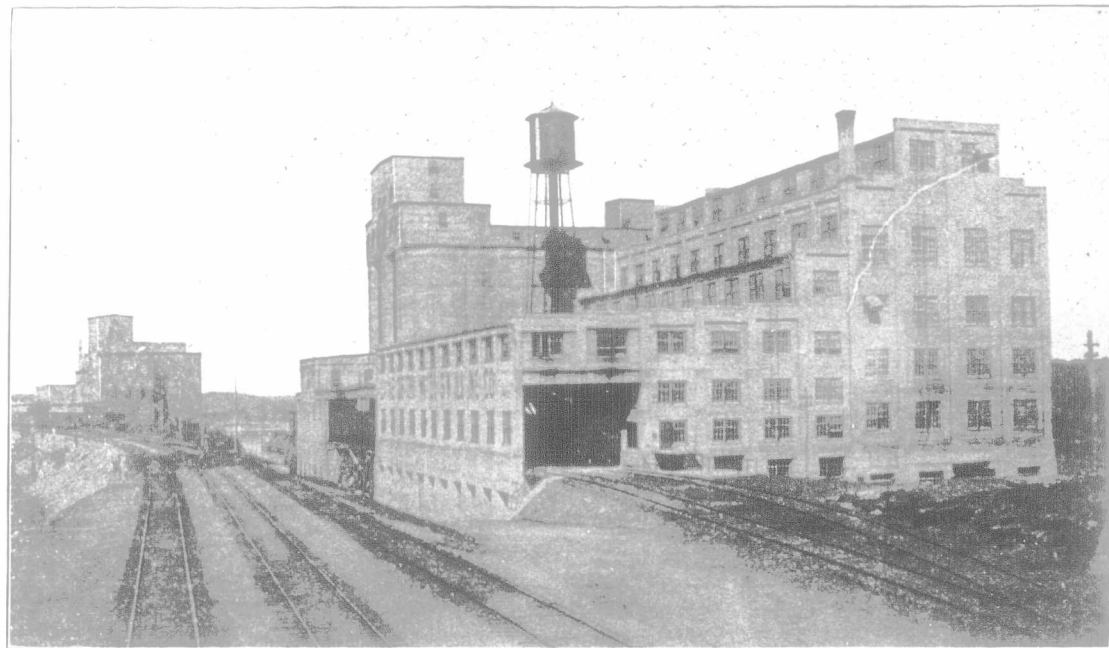
were purified by the combined action of sieve and air, and ground on stones separate from the wheat and bolted. And this was followed by the introduction of the roller system of gradual reduction. Corrugated rolls breaking down the wheat in one cession are called "break-rolls"; while other rolls usually with a smooth surface for crushing the various grades of middlings are called reducing rolls. Thus a mill using five sets of rolls for "breaking down" the wheat and seven pairs of smooth rolls for crushing the various grades of middlings is called a five-break seven-reduction mill.

Altogether, in the large mills, taking into account all the preparatory, cleaning and separating operations, the grading, scalping, dusting, dressing, purifying and so forth, there are sometimes as many as fifty distinct operations through which the wheat passes before it passes out in the form of flour and feed.

In these respects, Canadian milling of course is no different from that existing in other countries. The points are only mentioned in order to bring to the readers' attention the fact that it has become an elabor-

another point, the importance of which can scarcely be placed too high, is the extraordinary rapidity with which the yearly grain crops of the West are increasing. Twenty years ago, they cut practically no figure at all; this year two hundred million bushels in wheat alone. Ten years hence—who shall say?

Naturally enough, the home need of this vast aggregate of produce forms but a percentage of its total consumption; as production increases, exports will loom larger and larger. As this is true not only of the raw material grain, but of the finished product flour and other cereal foods. As a matter of fact, a recent estimate by a well-known authority places even the present capacity of Canadian flour mills on a basis of being able to feed a population of forty millions, as against Canada's present eight millions. Of course, "capacity" is a term which means considerably more than average production; but the figure gives one a good idea of the point at issue. Exportation of grain and flour is a factor which for the very existence of our grain fields and flour mills, will yearly become of ever-growing importance. And needless



Lake of Woods Milling Co., plant at Keewatin. Capacity 9,000 bbls. per day

ate art requiring knowledge of the most expert and scientific kind.

Canada's special adaptation to the industry lies in its possession of untold millions of acres of land producing, or capable of producing, high yields of the hardest and best wheat in the world; this, in turn being based, in conjunction with fine soil, in its having the climate—including in this both range of temperature and length of summer sunlight—which experience shows to be the best adapted for this particular plant growth.

It is highly satisfactory to know that the prospects for this year's grain crops of the prairie provinces are splendid. While definite estimates are scarcely in order until after threshing the general belief is that the yield of wheat alone will reach over 200,000,000 bushels. This is not an extraordinary increase over the past two years; but a point of almost greater importance is that the quality promises to be very high, so that farmers are likely to reap just as large a profit as from a larger crop of inferior quality. Not only this, but Canada's reputation as a producer of wheat of highest quality will be enhanced; a feature which, as affecting the status of its flour milling industry, cannot be exaggerated. Still

to say, the larger the percentage of grain which is turned into flour, the greater will be the profit which will accrue to this country, both to the capitalists and the laboring classes. Perhaps to the farmers most of all, because when they have a market right at their doors to take their grain and work it up into flour, they will find, also at their doors, the by-products such as bran and shorts which are so valuable as food stuffs for rearing pigs and other livestock. And when a district raises live-stock in large numbers, it means a great deal for the continued fertility of the land in that district. So that the progress of Canadian milling means the development of more than one great industry; it means healthy growth for mixed farming as well, than which, for continuous prosperity of all classes, there is no better help.

In an article of this sort, it is scarcely necessary to go into minute details as to exportation but so that readers may have an idea of the large amount of wealth brought into this country from this source we will here give a list of the values of the chief articles under the heading of grain and breadstuffs exported from the Dominion in the fiscal years 1909 and 1912:

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