

\$2,100,000 Worth of New Buildings.

The above figures, in brief, represent the progress the city of Winnipeg has made in the erection of public, mercantile and residential property in this, the first year of the century. It is a record of which any city might well be proud. It is a record that perhaps no city of the size of Winnipeg ever equalled. It is a great achievement. Yet, great as it is, it is notable not so much for what it is as for what it represents. Behind and above this enormous expenditure in brick, stone and mortar, is the significant fact, that towers above the highest edifice that architects have designed or contractors built, that fact that the citizens of Winnipeg have a supreme confidence in the future of Western Canada, and that they are prepared to stake their all on its continued growth and prosperity. This colossal expenditure testifies, in no uncertain way, to the abiding faith Winnipeggers have in their city and to the vast natural resources of the territory for which it is the distributing centre.

The activity in building this year exceeds that of any other in the city's history. Last year broke all previous records in this direction, but the totals of 1900, large as they were, are easily eclipsed by those of the present year. Indeed, there has already been granted building permits to almost as great an amount as the aggregate of last year's operations. In 1900 there were erected buildings to the value of \$1,465,000. Inspector Rodgers has already issued this year permits to the amount of \$1,335,000. Of these, a large proportion are of brick or stone—indeed, the portion of frame and lumber buildings put up this year is very small. Many of the structures being erected are remarkable for their beauty, as well as for their adaptation for the specific purpose for which they were designed. Indeed it would be no exaggeration to say that few cities on this continent of the population of Winnipeg, and certainly none of its age, can boast so many handsome edifices, not only of a public, but of a mercantile character. At the present rate of progress, it is not too much to expect that within a very few years, the municipal and private enterprise of Winnipeg will combine to make the most substantially built city in the Dominion.

Significant in connection with this building expenditure is the fact that a large proportion of the capital being expended is by the men who are among the oldest of the city's residents. Many of these came to Winnipeg with small sums of money with no means, but who, by taking advantage of the many commercial opportunities that are open to men of business enterprise and foresight, have succeeded in achieving comfortable competences, and in many cases much more. It is noteworthy that those who know most of Winnipeg are those whose confidence in the city's future is firmest.

As stated above, building permits to the amount of \$1,335,000 have already been issued. Taking the average of the past three years as an index, it is fair to assume that the aggregate of this year's operations in the building trade in this city will exceed \$2,000,000.

The most expensive edifice in course of erection is the new building for the Merchants Bank, which promises to be one of the handsomest structures in the city. Its style of architecture will be quite different from the other two bank buildings that are pointed out with pride to visitors to the city—the Commerce and the Dominion—being very similar in design to the lofty buildings in the business quarters of New York. When completed, it will cost but little short of a quarter of a million, and will be one of the best equipped office buildings in Canada. Eight stories in height, it will tower above all surrounding buildings, and will be one of the most conspicuous objects visible from any part of the city. The contractors have made substantial progress, and already the steel girders for the first floor are being laid, and the masonry is built up to a height of nearly twenty feet.

The addition to the Bank of Hamilton building, on Main street, is also progressing apace, and when completed this edifice will be a notable addition to the number of fine banking premises located in the city.

The exterior of the new office on McDermot street for the Lake of the Woods Milling company is completed. Some beautiful stone carving adorns the facade of this handsome office. A little farther west on the same street the commodious stores and apartment

house being erected by Messrs. Tupper, Tupper & Suckling has progressed to the third storey. The red pressed brick exterior has a very pleasing design, and its central location and internal conveniences will ensure its having no lack of tenants when completed.

The reconstruction of the block Mr. John Leslie purchased from Mr. Hargrave is going on rapidly. Mr. Hargrave's new block has also made substantial progress.

The Pulford block, on Portage avenue, is completed, as far as the exterior is concerned, and is now ready for the glazing and internal fittings. Its stone and vitrified brick front will make it a desirable addition to the architectural beauty of Portage avenue.

This list does not much more than begin to enumerate the many buildings that are in course of erection in the city. About thirty solid brick and stone edifices are being put up, while over two hundred and fifty others,—stores, offices, and residences, are in course of construction elsewhere within the limits. A list of these, taken from Inspector Rodgers' records, was published in the Free Press not long since. Taken altogether, the record is one of which Winnipeg citizens should be proud, and which will furnish to the people of the east additional evidence, if such were needed, that the West is making no halt in its onward march of progress.

Get the Wheat Pure.

A Manitoba correspondent writes as follows to the Liverpool Mercury:—"What I have to say relates exclusively to English purchases of western Canadian wheat. I believe it is admitted without serious discussion that Western Canada, especially Manitoba, produces the most excellent sample of milling wheat in the world—Manitoba No. 1 hard. It is now estimated that Manitoba and Western Canada will produce for export not less than 50,000,000 to 60,000,000 bushels of this unequalled cereal during the present season. "This vast volume of wheat will be bought and exported by local middle men, whose large profits will be paid by the western producers or by the Liverpool merchants. Perhaps largely by both. Not only is this true—but these local middle men buy up these fine western grades, transport them to eastern Canada, there adulterate them with inferior grades of eastern wheat and then ship the adulterated stock to the Liverpool importers, thus precluding the possibility of the Liverpool dealer getting one bushel of the very best wheat produced in the world except in an adulterated form. Who is being swindled? Is it the Liverpool dealer or the western farmer?"

"Would it not, therefore, pay the English importers to place their own buyers upon the western Canada markets, buy direct from the farmers, get the grades pure as they are produced, and save the profits which go into the pockets of the non-producers, the non-consumers and the adulterators of Canadian wheat? By this method it does seem quite reasonable to believe that the Liverpool importer would secure better grades of wheat, and at greater reduced prices."

It is surprising that any one so ignorant of matters pertaining to the Canadian grain trade, should undertake to write upon the subject. The answer to this correspondent is very simple. In the first place, Manitoba wheat has been mostly exported direct from Manitoba through the United States, in bond, which precluded all possibility of mixing with eastern wheats. In the second place, the mixing complained of is specially prohibited by Act of the parliament of Canada. What is most surprising of all is, that a Winnipeg publication would reprint this letter from the Liverpool paper and give it editorial endorsement. The letter was probably written with the object of injuring Manitoba grain dealers, so gratify some personal spite, by some one who had no respect for the truth, and who cared not what misstatements he made.

The Dominion government is rapidly issuing the patents for C. P. R. and other railway land grants in Manitoba and the Territories, a work which has been very much neglected in years past.

LEADING COMMERCIAL HOTELS

WINNIPEG
HOTEL LELAND
Headquarters for commercial men.
CITY HALL SQUARE.

DRYDEN, ONT.
DRYDEN HOTEL
A. H. HUTCHINSON, Prop.
Headquarters for commercial and mining men and the general public.

RAPID CITY
QUEEN'S HOTEL
THOS. EVOY, Prop.
Headquarters for commercial travellers. Free bus meets all trains.

BIRMLE
ROSSIN HOUSE
H. FENWICK, Prop.
Good accommodation; telephone connection with the station; sample rooms; inside closet. Livery in connection.

FOHKTON
BALMORAL HOUSE
McDOUGALL BROS., Props.
Good sample rooms and every accommodation for the general public. Heated by furnace and lighted by acetylene gas.

TREHERNE
LELAND HOTEL
W. F. LEE, Prop.
First-class accommodation for commercial travellers.

GLENBORO
QUEEN'S HOTEL
M. E. NEVINS, Prop.
Best hotel on the Glenboro branch. Three large and first-class sample rooms.

NAPINFA
HOTEL LELAND
B. HALLONQUIST, Prop.
First-class in every department. Sample rooms. Every convenience for the travelling public. Opposite C. P. R. depot.

DELORAINÉ
PALACE HOTEL
LAIRD & McGARVEY, Props.
New building, new furnishings, furnace heating, acetylene gas. First-class. Large sample rooms.

MAGGREGOR, MAN.
THE STANLEY HOUSE
E. WATSON, Prop.
First-class accommodation for travellers. Commodious sample rooms. Livery and feed stable in connection. All kinds of teaming attended to.

ELKHORN
HOTEL MANITOBA
W. J. DIXON, Prop.
New building; new furnishings; furnace heating; acetylene gas. First-class. Large sample rooms.

FLEMING
WINDSOR HOTEL
W. GEO. CLEVERLY, Prop.
New management. Rates \$1.25. Renovated and refurbished. Commodious sample rooms. Heated by hot air. Livery and feed stable in connection. Inside closet.

ROSTHERN
OCCIDENTAL HOTEL
H. A. McEWEN, Prop.
New house. Up-to-date appointments.

PRINCE ALBERT
PRINCE ALBERT HOTEL
DAVID POLLOCK, Prop.
First-class accommodation. Good sample rooms for commercial men. Bus meets all trains.

RED DEER, ALTA.
ALBERTA HOTEL
BEATTY & BRINDLE, Props.
C. and K. dining hall, good sample rooms and every accommodation for commercial travellers and the general public.

WYTHASKIWIN, ALTA.
CRITERION HOTEL
F. M. HAMILTON, Proprietor.
New buildings, newly furnished, hot and cold baths, heated by furnace and lighted with gas; good sample rooms.

STRATHCONA
STRATHCONA HOUSE
W. H. SHEPPARD, Prop.
First-class. Opposite depot.

EDMONTON
ALBERTA HOTEL
JACKSON & GRIERSON, Proprietors.
Sample rooms. Free bus. Livery in connection.

MACLEOD
MACLEOD HOTEL
THOS. WILTON, Prop.
Good sample rooms and every accommodation for commercial travellers and the general public. Rates \$2.00 per day. Bus to and from all trains.

PINCHER CREEK
HOTEL ARLINGTON
MITCHELL & DOBBIE, Props.
New building, new and commodious bedrooms, parlors, bathrooms and sample rooms. Newly furnished. Heated throughout by hot air; lighted by gas. Electric bells in every room. Cuisine second to none; and the best stock of wines, liquors and cigars in Alberta.
Miss Mitchell, Matron.

CRANBROOK, B. C.
CRANBROOK HOTEL
JAS. RYAN, Prop.
Large and convenient sample rooms and good accommodation for commercial men. Rates \$2.00 a day.

REVELSTOKE, B. C.
HOTEL VICTORIA
JOHN V. PERKS, Prop.
Large and well lighted sample rooms. Hot air and electric light and bells in every room. Night grill room in connection for the convenience of guests arriving and departing by night trains.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.
HOTEL COLONIAL
J. E. INSLEY, Proprietor.
Special attention given to commercial travellers. Charges moderate.

VANCOUVER
HOTEL LELAND
R. DOWSWELL, PROPRIETOR.
Refurnished and remodelled. Rates \$1.50 to \$2.00 per day. Long distance phone. One block from C. P. R. depot and steamboat wharves. W. E. Grigor, Manager.

VICTORIA
HOTEL VERNON
JAS. PATTERSON, Mgr.
Headquarters for commercial and business men. Free bus and sample rooms.

KAMLOOPS
GRAND PACIFIC HOTEL
P. A. BARNHART, Proprietor.
The best hotel in Kamloops. Ample accommodation.

GREENWOOD, B. C.
IMPERIAL HOTEL
GRAHAM & PARRY, Proprietors.
Headquarters for commercial travellers and all business men.

PHOENIX, B. C.
THE VICTORIA HOTEL
B. C. Hotel Co., Ltd., B. TOMKINS, Mgr.
Electric bells, electric lighted, furnace heated, finest liquors and cigars. Sample rooms.