

The MELFORT DISTRICT

Among the many districts which have made a record, west of the great lakes, in that great belt known as the Canadian Prairie Country, now advancing by leaps and bounds towards that much coveted title of the Empire's Granary, the Melfort District has bravely held its own with many more favored districts, although until the past year it has been at a great disadvantage on account of the lack of railway communication. That this section of the West has made such a wonderful showing is no doubt due to the many natural advantages which the district possesses, and which are found wanting in many other districts of the West. Many of them may be equal to the Melfort District in some respects, but we have yet to find the one that can surpass it in its many natural advantages. These consist of an abundance of hay, wood and water; a soil not surpassed for productiveness and lasting qualities on this green earth; a climate as mild as that of less fortunate districts several hundred miles further south, due no doubt to the amount of timber scattered over this district in the shape of groves of trees which dot the landscape in a manner at once pleasing and beneficial—beneficial by serving as a wind-break that prevents the howling blizzards that are the outcome of and the product due to a treeless plain. They also attract the rains, which are known to fall in greater abundance where timber is found than where it is absent.

In the spring of 1900 the Manitoba and North-West Land Co. had several of their agents at work in the district selling land which the company had located some time previously, and hundreds of sections were sold at \$3 per acre, the payments extending over a period of ten years. Within a few months after the business of land selling had really