

## American Immigration into the Canadian North West



**M**ONG the many factors which are contributing to the unprecedented prosperity now enjoyed by Canada, not the least is the steady flow of immigration which is pouring into her western provinces from the United States. This influx of settlers forms one of the most substantial assets that Canada receives at the present time.

These Americans of the second, third, or fourth generations are, for reasons tolerably obvious, the very best immigrants that Canada has ever received. The curious fact is that while other immigration comes in timidly and in ill-organized fashion, these shrewd Americans come in boldly, confidently, and in large companies. Now that they have decided that the country is a good one, there is no halting or half-hearted measures; they come by thousands from the very best classes in the Western and North-western States.

Let us discuss the conditions which cause the movement. The first lies in the fact that all the free or cheap lands of really good quality in the States and worthy of a farmer's labor, have been occupied.

Moreover, the Canadian Northwest has proved itself a much better wheat country, not merely than the Northwestern States are today, but than they ever were. These immigrants come mainly from Minnesota, the Dakotas, and Iowa, and in a less degree from Nebraska, Illinois, Kansas, and even Missouri. The immigration authorities, or any Canadians who have had to do with them, speak of them with unqualified praise.

Prosperity in the United States produces a certain demand for farms among the newly enriched business men of the newer towns and cities. Still, it may be fairly asked why the owner of a fine improved farm of 300 acres in Iowa should wish to leave it, even though he gets a good price, and move on to the cheap lands of the remoter prairies. The answer is quite simple as regards a certain number of such people—namely, those who have sons—in that the old farm provides only for one, while for the rest of the