

are clearly evident at the present time, when the results of a protracted labor trouble in another country entail both loss and inconvenience upon us, a country that should be self-contained. There could be no cause for complaint if we were naturally a coalless country; but there is within our own borders enough coal to last all Canada, for all purposes, at least a thousand years. With such unlimited resources, it is unfortunate that we should be at the mercy of foreign capitalists. The simple remedy is the development of the Canadian mines and the improvement and cheapening of trans-continental transportation. Anthracite from British Columbia, and bituminous coal from Nova Scotia would be then easily at the command of Ontario and Quebec.

Prosperity in the West

THE tide of prosperity in Western Canada is still in the flood. There are on every hand abundant evidences of increasing wealth and industrial development, and the eyes of the whole world are turned toward Canada's great West and North-West. Happily this year's record will add still more to the substantial progress already made.

The wheat-crop of 1902 will total fully 70,000,000 bushels, of which 60,000,000 bushels will be available for export. The area under wheat cultivation this year was 2,625,500 acres, an increase over last year of 109,000 acres. Other grain crops amount to another 70,000,000 bushels, with an increased area under cultivation of 250,000 acres. The total value of the grain, live stock, and dairy products for export will be about \$50,000,000. The western farmer has thus a goodly heritage in the crops of 1902.

The wheat has also been of excellent quality. Never before was the average so high. Over sixty per cent. is No. 1 hard, ten per cent. better than last year. Some cases of wonderful yields are reported, several farms having forty bushels to the acre, and the average being twenty-seven,

two better than the year before. Thus in every respect there has been progress. There is more land in tillage, the crops have been larger, and the quality better, and \$50,000,000 is the snug result. There are also more people in the country. At least 50,000 immigrants have taken up homesteads in Manitoba and the Territories, and a number of colonization schemes have been set afoot, which will bear fruit next year.

A sure sign of the commercial progress which follows close upon agricultural development is the increase of banking business in the West. A number of new branches have been established, and capital account has been increased to meet the urgent demands of the western trade. The benefits of this prosperity beyond the Lakes are certain to be felt in the East as well, and eastern business firms have an opportunity which they cannot afford to neglect.

The Effect of Science on Society

THE advancement of science is tending toward a steady upward movement in the industrial scale. Improved machinery and better methods throw men out of work at the lower end of the scale, but they provide more intelligent work at the upper end. Thus humanity as a whole is the gainer and society is transformed to its own advantage. Machines now do the work that men used to do; donkey-engines have replaced the human carrier; the reaper has given way to the swiftly-moving harvesting machine; ships go by steam rather than by the power of galley-rowers; and nearly every article of common use, once made by hand, is now produced by machinery. Thus, at the same time that education is lifting up the lower classes and unfitting them for the menial occupations, science is sweeping away those occupations, the one process nearly compensating the other. In this way large numbers are being deprived of occupation. What becomes of them?

If, however, science is abolishing occu-