

150,000. In addition to this, Andrew Carnegie gave \$2,598,500 to libraries.

The most striking evidence of progress was the unprecedented prosperity throughout America. It was a year of hard times in many parts of Europe, and the alarm of the "American invasion" considerably increased. But Canada shared prosperity with the United States; crops were large, manufacturing industries were active and profitable, and general trade was good. A great number of new enterprises were established, and the financial institutions brought in most satisfactory reports of the year's business. Best of all, this commercial and industrial progress was without the disastrous incidents of any serious labor trouble or monopolistic oppression such as marked affairs in the United States, where the coal strike and the regulation of the trusts still remain national problems.

Progress in Canada, already accomplished or down for the programme of 1903, includes an extensive increase of railway systems in the West, where a third transcontinental road is now projected; the establishment next summer of a fast Atlantic steamship line, which was one of the liveliest topics during the past year; the expansion of Canadian commerce both at home and abroad; the development of immense industrial enterprises in New Ontario, Nova Scotia, and the West; the strengthening of national sentiment and faith in the country's possibilities; and the popular adoption, as a national watchword, of "Canada for Canadians." In all these directions marked progress has been made, paving the way for further growth this year and in the years to follow. The times are now ripe for action.

The Farmer and the Merchant

IT may be true that the farmer and the business man belong to different orders and commonly have very different attainments. We have been accustomed to such distinctions for a long time. Yet it is somewhat curious that what is

said of the one may be applied almost exactly to the other. This is in part what an ex-president of the New York Chamber of Commerce says of the commercial life: "The great commercial man must necessarily be one of the most intelligent and broad-minded men in any community. He cannot be narrow in his judgment and conclusions. He must understand the laws which affect credit in his own country and in foreign lands. The effect of storm and drouth upon the world's harvests must be his constant study, as well as financial tendencies and the course of exchanges. He must be able to analyze statements and detect flaws and misrepresentations. His mental vision is expanded by intercourse with his contemporaries in all lands and enriched by travel."

What has this to do with the farmer? Simply that to him too these same words apply, though no doubt in a lesser degree. It was only the other day that the Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Ontario said that the labor question, as it affected the farming interests, was becoming critical. "Either the farmers of this province must get a large supply of skilled labor or large numbers of farmers must go out of business." In other words, there is need of more intelligence on the farm. The time was when farm labor meant brute force and little else; things have changed now, but there is still a lack of that trained skill which supplements the force. The farmer ought to be intelligent and broad-minded, as well as the merchant; he ought to understand something of commercial laws; certainly he ought to study the world's harvests, for that is his own particular line; and beside all this he ought to have a working knowledge of agricultural science, and not be content with the old-fashioned grub-hoe methods of farming, for which the day is now gone past. Both the employer of farm labor and the farm laborer himself must nowadays have skill as well as strength. The agricultural colleges and