

## HIST 1133 – Primary Source Analysis Essay 1

**\*\*\*DUE 13 October 2010 IN CLASS\*\*\***

As outlined in the course syllabus, students are responsible for completing a primary source analysis essay for this course that is worth 10% of your final grade. The essay should be 5 double-spaced pages in length in standard 12-point font with one-inch margins. You will choose one from a limited list of essay questions and primary source documents. Please turn in a hard copy of your essay to the instructor at the beginning of lecture on October 13<sup>th</sup> and keep a digital copy for your records. Late assignments will be penalized one third of a letter grade per day (i.e., if one day late, a B paper receives a B-) up to a maximum of five days.

**Please consult the “General Rules, Policies and Expectations for Assignments and Participation” section of the course syllabus for further details.**

*Expectations for Essay Assignment:*

Students are expected to write an essay that meets the following expectations:

- answers the essay question
- provides a clearly stated thesis
- provides evidence of critical thinking and analysis as well as synthesis of researched information throughout and presents a logical and persuasive argument
- utilizes the primary source document and reflects on the production of the primary source
- demonstrates knowledge of the historical context relevant to the question (based on secondary source research) and situates the primary source document within its historical context
- research sources are relevant and credible
- written clearly, using proper grammar and spelling
- clearly documents and cites sources using proper footnote citations and provides a properly formatted bibliography (Chicago Manual of Style footnotes)

*Additional Guidelines:*

- proofread your work (essays that have not been proofread will get a very low grade)
- have a friend review your essay
- do not use online sources unless obtained through Mount Royal Library e-resources or other credible online source
- must include **page numbers**
- properly staple pages
- write about historical events, persons, and places in the **past tense**
- include name, course info, student number, essay question on first page
- avoid block quotes
- do not use contractions
- do not cite lectures

## Immigration and the Canadian West

Beginning in 1896, Canada launched an aggressive campaign to attract immigrants to the Canadian prairies. Under the leadership of Minister of the Interior, Clifford Sifton (1896-1906), the government initiated a broad effort to advertise the attractions of Western Canada using posters, pamphlets, photographs and brochures. Between 1896 and 1914, more than three million people came to Canada.

This assignment includes a 1902 Department of Interior immigration brochure for Western Canada. This brochure was distributed in Britain and highlighted many of the attractive characteristics of the region for prospective immigrants.

### Primary Source Documents:

Department of the Interior. *Facts Relating to Western Canada* (1902) [only read pages 1-15]. - <http://peel.library.ualberta.ca/bibliography/2606.html>

### Additional Readings:

Conrad, Margaret and Alvin Finkel. *History of the Canadian Peoples: 1867 to the Present*. Volume 2. Toronto: Pearson Education, 2009.

- Ch. 3 – “Forging a National Policy, 1873-1896”
- Ch. 4 – “Entering the Twentieth Century”

Early Canadiana Online. *Canada in the Making Pioneers and Immigrants*. “The Last Best West, 1896-1914” ([http://www.canadiana.org/citm/themes/pioneers/pioneers11\\_e.html](http://www.canadiana.org/citm/themes/pioneers/pioneers11_e.html))

### Essay Question:

**Who was the audience for this publication? Based on your reading of this document, what kind of immigrant settler did the Department of the Interior hope to bring to Canada?**

# FACTS RELATING

# Western CANADA



A Western Canada Farmhouse

A Wheat Field



TRADE RETURNS.  
1895 - £46,020,000.  
1901 - £78,033,000.

POPULATION OF  
WESTERN CANADA  
1881 - 120,000.  
1901 - 500,000.

160 ACRE  
**FARMS IN  
WESTERN  
CANADA**  
FREE

POPULATION OF  
DOMINION OF  
CANADA  
5,500,000.

Grain yield  
100,000,000 Bushels. 1901.



A Western Canada Farmstead

Issued by the  
Department of the Interior  
from the Office of the  
HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA  
**M. W. T. R. PRESTON,**  
*Commissioner of Emigration,*  
17, VICTORIA STREET,  
LONDON, S.W.

203543

# BEAUTIFUL WESTERN CANADA.

THE AMERICAN SETTLERS POURING INTO THE COUNTRY  
BY THOUSANDS.

AND THEY PRONOUNCE IT BEAUTIFUL. THEY HAVE LOVELY  
HOMES AND ALL ARE PROSPEROUS AND HAPPY.

**T**H**ERE** is no doubt that more attention has been directed to Canada during the past few years than to any other portion of the American Continent. In that time more has become known of the resources of the Country, its great possibilities have become certainties, its advantages for the Settler and for the Capitalist are now widely known, and on every hand there is an intense interest exhibited in all that pertains to the developed as well as to the undeveloped portions of the great Dominion. The time has passed

the article he produces, the farmer of Canada ranks easily at the head; the cattle industry is one of immense proportions and Canadian Cattle take their place among the best in the land.

When it comes to minerals it is no longer a question as to where Canada stands as she holds a precedence over all other parts of the Continent. The output of gold, silver, iron, copper, lead, and all other valuable minerals is very great.

Timber is a chief requisite, and in all parts of the Dominion there has been a



A Western Canada Farm—Town in the distance.

when the climate is looked upon as something to be avoided; now that the benefits of the Canadian climate are becoming to be somewhat realised, Canada is no longer associated with an interminable winter.

The fruit grower of other parts fully appreciates the competitor that Canada has proven to be; the grower of grain has satisfied himself that for the perfect quality of

providing hand, there being large tracts of the very best quality in all the Provinces.

There is no better paying industry on the Continent—on the face of the Globe, in fact—than that of the Fishing Industry of Canada. Manufacturers find a ready market for all that the factories can produce, and so we might continue.

Canada enjoys most exceptional advan-

tages; poets have sung and authors written of the beauties, the glories, the realities of Canada, but these praises when placed side by side with the matter of fact evidence of those who have selected Canada as their home, they convey but faintly the true situation.

Taking Western Canada, for instance; that portion in which lies the vast Province of Manitoba, the immense and fertile districts of Assiniboia, Saskatchewan and Alberta, and passing from settlement to settlement, interviewing the residents, there is found the one prevailing sentiment of contentment and satisfaction.

Many of the settlements are described by an enthusiastic visitor as "Gems of Sylvan Beauty," but, he says, "There, beauty cannot be recorded by the camera in a comprehensive way."

It will not be out of place here to give some idea of the early settlement of a portion of that country, not to go back to nearly a hundred years ago when Lord Selkirk came in by way of Hudson Bay and established his settlements, but to a very much later date when it became known to the people of the east that in what had been looked upon as the Great Unknown Land, there lay, a great future for Canada, and a magnificent inheritance for those who chose to make a home there. The rich soil was abundant in the chemicals that produce grasses and grains, thus offering every inducement to the new settler although he might have to traverse thousands of miles of almost barren country to reach it.

It did not matter to him that he had to run the risk of having his crops ruined by the tens of thousands of Buffalo that made their home on these plains. He knew that where the Buffalo existed and fattened his own cattle could live and thrive; the same soil that could produce such magnificent grasses would yield bountifully in wheat and oats and barley, and the new settler was correct.

That reference is to a period of less than twenty-five years ago, up to which time very little was made known to the outside world of the vast resources that lay hidden in the earth and in the soil of Western Canada. The great Hudson Bay Company, a company of traders, anxious to retain the country for their own people to prevent the despoiling of the vast hunting grounds, their preserves of furred game, did not allow any particulars of the fertility of the plains to become known outside. They, however, were fully aware

of it, for at that time their factors were growing most excellent wheat, nearly a thousand miles north of the northern boundary between the United States and Canada. But not a word of this reached the ears of the outside world until a quarter of a century ago.

The impression was sent out and credence given to it, that the country was almost uninhabitable, that the winters were interminable, that the cold was severe, that summer weather was not known and the hardships taxed the greatest endurance of human beings; but once it became known that the prairies and uplands were so wonderfully productive, that the winters were not severe, that the summer was delightful and the climate health-



A Western Canada Farm House

ful and beneficial, it was not long before there was a movement of land hunters in that direction.

An old timer who was a resident of '75, writing of that period, says "The vast plain to which I have referred, extending from the boundary line to the Boyne, and from Pembina Mountain to Red River, comprising some of the best land in the north-west, and is probably the largest section of contiguous good land in the province. In '75 the few settlers at Pembina Mountain fondly hoped that in the course of fifteen or twenty years this plain would become settled notwithstanding the absence of timber. Before the summer was over, a long line of camp fires, extending for miles and miles, announced one evening to the lonely settlers that six thousand Mennonites had located on seventeen townships. It is '79 now and farms on that plain are as hard to get, and are as valuable, as our much vaunted timber claims along the mountain, and west, a hundred miles to Turtle Mountain, rolls the tide of immigration."

From that time on there has been more

or less of an influx of population, railroads have been constructed, new districts have been opened up, the valley of the Saskatchewan, the plains and prairies of the Assiniboina have added their hundreds of thousands of acres of wonderfully productive land to that of Manitoba, homes of prosperous and contented settlers are scattered throughout that vast territory.



A Western Canada Barn, near Indian Head, Assa.

At the present time there are immense colonies located in different parts and all are successful. The growth and advancement that have been made in the past four or five years is remarkable.

The efforts of the Government of the Dominion, the officers of which have charge of the settlement of the country, have been directed to securing a good class of settlers from the United States, especially from the western part.

It was thought, and correctly too, that the men who had already pioneered in those states would succeed quickly in Western Canada. The result is, that of the 70,000 that have gone to the farms of Western Canada during the past few years, the greatest success has followed their efforts, and not a discontented word has been heard from any.

As is pointed out in the departmental publications, the success of farming in Canada is now positively assured, and the Canadian Government feel no hesitation in placing before the people of Great Britain and Ireland the advantages that Canada possesses for the agriculturist, and the man who, with a desire to improve his condition, is willing that his energies should be devoted to a farm life. As a result of the efforts that have been made this spring to bring to the attention of the

people in the old country these advantages, a great number of excellent settlers decided to risk their fortunes in the new land, and are now settled on farms, where in a short time they will be well on the highway to having comfortable homes.

A great deal of information about Western Canada will be found in this pamphlet, which heretofore has not been given in previous departmental publications.

### Limitless Field for Settlement.

The field for settlement in Western Canada is practically limitless. In the year 1888 the Dominion Government of the day appointed a committee of the Senate to investigate the character of the northern half of Western Canada, that lying above the Saskatchewan River; and, after receiving and examining a vast amount of evidence bearing on the subject, the committee concluded that in the district between Hudson Bay and the Rocky Mountains there was a region of 300,000 square miles adapted to the growth of wheat, another 100,000 adapted to the growth of barley; and yet 200,000 square miles more adapted to the growth of potatoes. South of the Saskatchewan watershed there is a wheat-growing territory, roughly speaking, of 270,000 square miles. Altogether the wheat-growing area north and south of the



Another Farmhouse in Western Canada.

Saskatchewan reaches the enormous figure of 570,000 square miles, a territory which is about equal to France and Germany put together, countries sustaining without difficulty a population approximating a hundred millions. Mr. John Carlton, M.P., recently estimated that not one-eightieth

of the land, well adapted to the growth of wheat, was under cultivation last year, and yet the export of wheat exceeded 30,000,000 bushels. Putting the above named area of 570,000 square miles into acreage, we find there are 364,000,000 acres, equal to 2,250,000 farms of 160 acres each. But, cutting the wheat-growing area down, by liberal paring, to 250,000,000 acres, we still have sufficient for 1,500,000 farms of 160 acres, or a population easily reaching ten millions, without the towns and cities which would certainly spring up all through this vast-agricultural region. Thus, there would appear to be little reason to fear overcrowding in Western Canada for many generations to come, no matter how fast the settlers come to those fertile prairies.

#### **Educational Facilities.**

#### **All the Advantages of Settled Government.**

General conditions of life in Manitoba and the territories are naturally becoming

more favourable every year. The hardships of real pioneering will speedily be ended for all but the most remote districts. Already every important centre has railway communication, and railway construction is in progress in every direction to increase these facilities and to give the settlers whatever benefit lies in competition. All the advantages of settled government, of course, prevail throughout the west, and these include a system of rural schools which eminent educationists consider the equal of any on the continent. In Manitoba the rural schools are about three miles or so apart in the settled districts, and the system is free. There is no taxation of pupils for attendance. The Government makes an annual grant to each school, and this, added to local taxation, pays all expenses, including the salary of the teacher. In the villages a higher grade of education is given than in the country, and in the cities and towns, it is unnecessary to remark, the educational privileges are still further improved.

## **FUEL.**

#### **Coal and Wood Areas are sufficient for several Generations.**

**T**HE question of fuel is, of course, one of considerable interest to the settler. It is settled in different ways in different parts of the west. The settler in Alberta, Assiniboia and Saskatchewan is the most favoured, he being able to go to the banks of the rivers and get all the coal he requires, in some cases at the bare cost of handling and hauling it home. Between Red River and the Rocky Mountains, it is estimated, there are some 65,000 square miles of coal-bearing strata, and extensive collieries are now operated at

Canmore, Lethbridge, Edmonton, and Anthracite in Alberta, while the coal in the Souris Valley is being opened up, with excellent results for the general population of Manitoba. Anthracite for the residents of Manitoban cities has still to come from south of the line, and is consequently high in price, but the cheaper soft coal of the country and wood are used extensively by the poorer classes in the cities, and almost exclusively in the rural parts of the province.



Tennis Court and Lawn on a Farmstead in the Rounthwait District.

## TAXATION LOW.

### Household Goods, Stock and Personal Effects Exempt.

AS to Taxes, the rate is very low throughout Western Canada, except where the settlers have voluntarily assumed burdens for the special development of certain localities, and is light indeed compared with the conditions found in either Europe or the United States. In Manitoba the average taxes for a quarter section (160 acres) do not exceed £2 10s. od. for all purposes; and in Assiniboia, Alberta and Saskatchewan they will not average more than half that amount. The stock, implements, household goods, and all other

personal effects belonging to the settler, as well as farm buildings and other improvements, are exempt. The municipal system of Manitoba is based on that of the older provinces; and the territories, as municipalities are formed, follow on the same lines. A Reeve and six Councillors transact the business of a rural municipality, levying and collecting taxes, forming and readjusting school districts, and building, constructing and repairing roads and bridges.



Elevators and Mill, Indian Head, Assiniboia.

## ELEVATORS AND FLOUR MILLS ARE PLENTIFUL IN WESTERN CANADA.

ALL the leading towns and villages of the west have large flour mills, the total output of these being from nine to ten thousand barrels per day, while the elevators for the handling of grain are scattered thickly through the settled regions, and, including those at the outlets of Fort William and Port Arthur, comprise a total capacity of 18,282,000 bushels. New elevators are, however, being arranged for at various points, in view of the heavy crop and the confident anticipation of greatly increased yields in the immediate future.

Threshing was hardly able to keep up with the monster crop of last year, and

was still actively proceeding<sup>2</sup> well on in November, the wheat suffering nothing by the delay, if properly stacked. The railways recognised readily the identity of their interests with those of the farmers, and carried the threshing outfits from point to point, either free or at a nominal charge. On the whole it will be evident to the reader that, while offering homes to a practically unlimited number of industrious, intelligent men, Western Canada affords the new-comer, at the same time, the privileges and advantages of well-ordered government and a sound and healthy social system.



## SPLENDID MARKETS.

### Best Facilities Afforded for Handling Grain.

**T**HE markets for all the products of the field are excellent and at prevailing prices soon yield a return that pays for the land, labour and improvements. Bishop Levi Harker, of Magrath, Alberta, bought 240 acres of land at \$3 an acre and fenced the land with a barbed wire fence and cedar posts; he ploughed and cultivated 45 acres of the land and the crop

The old adage and advice, not to put all the eggs in one basket, applies to farming in Western Canada as well as elsewhere, and the farmer who not only raises wheat, but grows other grains, and has around him his herds of cattle, hogs, sheep and poultry, is as near the achievement of success as it is possible to get. Horses and cattle thrive remarkably well on the prairie farms of Western Canada, and in proportion to the number kept there is probably more high-class stock there than in any other part of America. Some most valuable stallions are to be found there, very many of which are direct importations from Europe. Cattle in increasing numbers are to be met with all over the prairie. Almost every class of fine-bred cattle is to be seen, among which may be mentioned Shorthorns, Galloways, Herefords, Jerseys and Holsteins. The export of beef cattle is very large, but owing to the demand in the mining districts of British Columbia and the Yukon there is a splendid home market.

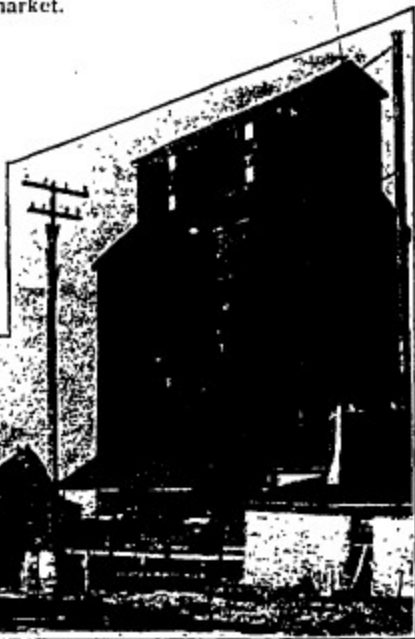


Range Cattle.

gathered from the 45 acres paid for the land, fencing, cultivation and seed, leaving a net profit, after paying all the expenses of the 240 acre plot, of £150.

There is an unlimited market for fat cattle on the western coast, the great mining districts of British Columbia, which adjoin Alberta to the west, and especially in Europe, at a rate that will abundantly satisfy investors.

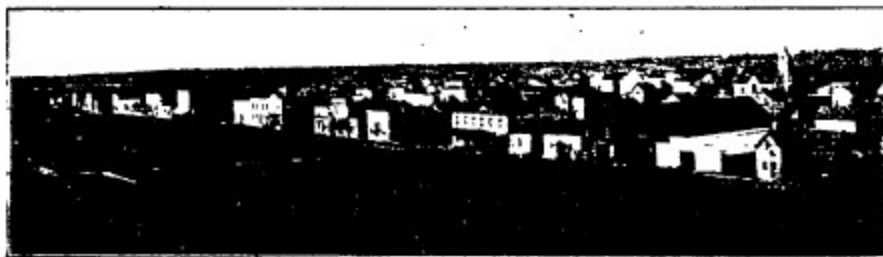
Southern Alberta range cattle are looked upon most favourably in the English markets.



Hauling Grain to Elevators at Brandon.

## THE BUILDING UP OF A NEW COUNTRY.

Great Satisfaction in Watching its Growth, while your Farms  
are Rapidly Increasing in Value.



Glenboro, Manitoba, Looking N.E.

THERE is something about the opening up of a new country that is specially attractive, and it is a pleasure to be able to look out from your own home and see the country being settled by thrifty and prosperous farmers on all sides. A newspaper correspondent, who visited Western Canada for the purpose of advising his paper on the growth of the country, describes his trip on a train that was carrying into one of the new districts some five or six hundred settlers, and after relating conversations with several of his fellow-passengers, he says: "The train was making good progress up the line. We had passed out of the ranching country and into the region of farming lands. Here it was that we began to strike new towns. It was odd to see the little places springing up on the prairie, for the timbered country was still to the north. We saw the towns actually making. We heard the hammer, saw and chisel plying wherever the train stopped, saw the piles of fresh-cut lumber lying at every siding waiting to be fashioned into stores and residences, hotels and schoolhouses. Half finished buildings were seen on every hand. Builders and carpenters, painters, and even decorators were at work all around. Many of the new buildings are quite elaborate pieces of architecture, and are neatly finished. Everywhere are visible strenuous activity, energy, confidence, and the beginnings of a sound prosperity.

"Here is a town. Barely two years ago it was but a flag station. Now there are 400 people there, and it has every appear-

ance of a flourishing little country town, with a row of well-filled stores, a school-house, one hotel at least that would do credit to any town in the east, as well as several smaller ones."

Continuing, he says: "Ortake Didsbury. Didsbury has not yet been heard of in the east. But give it time. Last spring there was no Didsbury. But settlement began around a siding of that name. Somebody put up a tent, and the town was started. Lumber was shipped in, carpenters, painters, and glaziers followed, and by fall the town is made. Not that Didsbury has finished itself. By no means. There is no limit to its ambition."

As with Didsbury and Ponoka, so with numerous other similar towns.

"The extraordinary development is of course the one subject of discussion all the way up the line, and there is a general conviction that, great as have been the results during the past year or two, they are but the beginning of a still more remarkable movement of population into this region. There are various estimates made of the number who may be expected in during the coming year. I have heard none coming from a responsible source that put the numbers below fifty thousand. The farmer who becomes simply a wheat grower has a bigger crop than he can conveniently and quickly harvest, and takes chances of loss which are entirely unnecessary. The wheat produced is frequently equal to No. 1 Manitoba hard, and is always of good grade. As to the oats, they are simply the best in the world, and run up to a hundred bushels an acre."

## A WESTERN PIONEER.

For Forty Years he has been Preaching in Western Canada.

THE correspondent before referred to, in continuing his interesting letters, says: "The whole vast region is teeming with evidences of progress, with hope, with abundance of achievement and with the ebullient energy of youth, strength, confidence and ambition."

"For forty-one years I have been preaching in the west, and only now are Canadians awakening to its greatness," said the Rev. John MacDougall, the famous Methodist, who has almost equalled the aged French missionary, Father Lacombe, in his length of service in the far west. I had met him on the train going west to his home at Calgary, a city many hundreds of miles from any white settlement when he first came to the country to minister to the Indians. Many interesting stories Mr. MacDougall entertained his fellow-travelers with regarding those early days, when the Indian and the buffalo still divided those vast plains between them. He had been lately lecturing in England on Canada, and he sketched briefly his usual manner of introducing his lecture.

"First," said he, "I mention the Maritime Provinces, refer briefly to their great wealth in lumber and fisheries, and point out that they alone are about equal in area to the United Kingdom, with a total population of less than a fortieth. Then I pass rapidly on to Quebec, touch on its thrilling history, and its immense extent, two or three times that of all Great Britain and Ireland, and tell of its industrious population of a million and a half, and of its thriving commerce and great manufacturing centres. But I do not linger on these. I pass further west to Ontario. I tell of the populous peninsula with its fertile farms and prosperous cities, and I tell of the older settlements of the east, and of the vast rich lands of new Ontario hungering for population to cultivate them. Still I go west and tell them of Manitoba; that it, too, is as big as England and Ireland and Scotland added together, and I tell them of the magnificent development that has taken place there during twenty years, and of the millions of acres here that are yet untouched by the plough." Then, continued the robust old missionary, "I take a jump of a thousand miles, and land with my audience right on the Rocky mountains. I tell them briefly

of the marvellous beauties of the mountain scenery and of the noble rivers and fertile valleys of the Pacific Province, with its area equalling that of France and Great Britain and Ireland, and I tell them of its magnificent wealth in minerals and timber and fish, and of the tiny population that is there to enjoy all this wealth."

"Then," said the speaker dramatically, "I take a halt. I tell my audience that I have not yet begun my lecture on Canada. I ask them to fix their minds on the vast territory, a thousand miles square, lying east of the Rocky Mountains and north of the international boundary, and then I proceed to tell them about Canada, the real Canada, the great boundless west. I tell them of the fertility of its soil, of the



House in a Western Canada Town.

magnificence of its climate, of the richness of its harvests, of the gold and the coal in its river banks, of the fish in its waters, of the rolling prairies, of the great wooded regions lying north of the prairies, and of the immense areas that yet remain untouched and almost unknown. I talk to them for an hour about this great country," said Rev. Mr. MacDougall eloquently, "and when I have finished I feel that I have not begun to tell them the wonderful story of the west, and I tell them that, too. But I have done something to make the west known," he added reflectively, "I have seen some development, too, only it is nothing to what it must be. I want to see two or three great transcontinental railways running through the Canadian west and people pouring into the country 600 miles north of where we find them now, where you will find wheat growing

as well as in Manitoba, and a milder climate. Ah! you don't understand how I love the west," concluded Mr. McDougall, with a sigh of pleasure. If one who knows the west as does this eminent clergyman admits his inability to do justice to more than some phases of its manifold greatness, the visitor of but a few weeks may be pardoned for touching only on the most striking features of the moment, such as I have outlined above. There is material for volumes in tracing the beginning and the prosperous development of the individual settlements, and showing how, everywhere, moving

amongst all and gradually amalgamating and assimilating all, is found the restless, eager, tireless, plodding, yet dominating, Anglo-Saxon. But looking at the actual achievements of the moment, the movement which above all others in the west to-day is exciting interest and wonder from Winnipeg to Edmonton is the great migration from the western States, as well as Great Britain and Ireland into Canada, a stream of settlement which, beginning as a fitful rivulet, less than half a decade ago, has reached already the volume of a river, and promises to swell to even many times its present size before subsiding.



Farm in Western Canada on which the wheat was grown which won the World's prize at the Chicago Exposition.

## WHY DOES CANADA GET THE SETTLERS FROM THE UNITED STATES?

**I**S a question that is frequently asked in the Old Country. For a number of years there was a large migration to the Western or prairie States, land was secured at low figures, and those who were fortunate to get them soon became wealthy, owing to the splendid crops and to the consequent appreciation of land values. Incidentally, this is being repeated in Western Canada. Five or six years ago the American people were rudely awakened to the fact that their vacant fertile lands had been practically exhausted. Vast sections of territory still remained unin-

habited, it is true, but the greater part of such lands had been found almost valueless for agricultural purposes. The presence of many great cities in the western States had given a fictitious value to the lands in their vicinity in many cases, and the man whose capital consisted chiefly or wholly of his labour, found himself but little better off in the United States than he would have been in Europe. The terrible rush for the new lands opened up in Oklahoma and the Indian Territory was a vivid demonstration of this fact, and showed that the United States could do

little or nothing more in the way of caring for the surplus population of the Old World. More than this, even! The fact that on the opening up of these territories there was no less than 16 applications for every homestead offered showed that there were many thousands of Americans themselves of agricultural bent who were dissatisfied with conditions in their own country and eager to improve them. Many of them were the sons of the older generation of western farmers, eager for new land to break, and unable longer to stand the strain of the prices to which it has too often risen in the western States, reaching in some agricultural sections of Illinois to the extravagant figure of £21 per acre. Many were men who had never

owned land of their own, but had paid high rent hopelessly for years; others were native Canadians who had been induced years ago to leave their own country for altogether imaginary conditions over the border. It was these men, eager for easier and happier conditions of life, under which they could hope to extract ultimately more than a bare and toilsome subsistence from the mother earth they cultivated, that the Canadian Minister determined to lead into the Canadian west, that vast country of which the boundless possibilities are even now but faintly grasped by Canadians themselves. How well he has succeeded in his momentous undertaking the country is learning every day.



A Western Canada Homestead—"Making a Garden."

## LOOKING OVER THE COUNTRY.

Agriculturists, Financiers and Business Men Buying Land in  
Western Canada.

IT has been pointed out that upwards of seventy thousand persons have gone from the United States into Canada, during the past six years, and this is advanced as one of the strongest endorsements that can be given the value of the agricultural lands of Canada. It is scarcely necessary to advise the reader that these people took no chance when they changed their place of residence. Delegates were sent representing farmers' clubs and agricultural bodies of various kinds in the western States. They went

for the express purpose of spying out the land and reporting to the bodies sending them. During the past year there were no fewer than 400 such delegates. They included all classes of practical men, agriculturists, financiers, members of Legislatures and business men, and were piloted in small groups into every section of the west. Financial men, managers of loan and investment companies, went with the idea of buying land for settlers from their own localities, whom they have actually in view, and who will require

some financial assistance in getting on the land. In this way the financial corporation gets frequently a six or seven per cent investment with good security, as against a three per cent investment at home. As to the proportion of the so-called "Americans" coming into the country, there were four times more of "returning Canadians" among them during the last fiscal year than during any preceding year, and without being able to make any accurate calculations on this precise point, it might be said that fully one-third of the incomers from the States are former Canadians. A fair proportion of these repatriated Canadians, also, are French-Canadians, and are settling in Manitoba and in the French-Canadian settlements in the vicinity of Edmonton.

#### Attitude of Americans.

It might not be uninteresting to the old country reader to learn that, as to the

attitude of the Americans proper who come to Canada, strangers to Canadian laws and technically foreigners, I have already described what I saw of it in the Edmonton district. They find that Canada is a foreign country in name only to them. Instead of being treated as foreigners they find themselves welcomed as brothers. In place of arbitrary laws of seclusion, they find fewer restrictions even than Canadians have found in going to the United States. The one thing on which all American settlers comment after having spent some time in this country is the superior enforcement of laws on this side. Generally speaking, the Department keeps in touch with the new arrival for a year, encouraging him and advising him to the utmost extent of its power during that period. At the end of a year the emigrant is usually on his feet. If, however, exceptional circumstances have hindered him, he will continue to find a friend and adviser in the Department.

## A VAST EXTENT OF TERRITORY.

IT is desired to impress the reader with the fact that in Western Canada there is abundance of room for all who wish to make it their home, and while it has been referred to before in these pages, it is thought advisable to deal with it more fully, and a few words regarding the vast extent of territory thrown open to settlement may not be out of place. In the first place, Manitoba alone, with a population of less than 300,000, has an area of 116,000 square miles, a fraction only under that of the United Kingdom. This population has practically all come in since 1870, when the total figure reached only ten thousand, chiefly Indians or half-breeds. The white population of 215 at Fort Garry in 1870 has grown to 48,000 in 1901 in the metropolitan city of Winnipeg. This rapid growth, with the uprising of so many flourishing towns and cities, has caused many people to imagine that Manitoba is already filled up, but this is far from being the case. In the Red River Valley of Manitoba there are in round numbers 2,800,000 acres, of which up to date only 550,000 have ever been cultivated. Again south of the main line of the Canadian Pacific down to the boundary of North Dakota, west of the Red River Valley, there are 4,600,000 acres, of which not more than 800,000 acres have been settled. North of the Canadian Pacific, again, within reach of railways, is another territory of 4,600,000

with only 500,000 acres cultivated. These vast vacant plains include some of the best land in the Province, at prices from ten to twenty shillings per acre?

#### How Does Farming Pay?

On the whole the question may be asked, how does farming in Western Canada pay? The splendid profits there are in wheat are well-known, looking at the relative cost of production and selling price. Here is the matter, however, presented in the concrete, being the exact financial results, as nearly as by careful estimates they could be obtained, of 7 3-4 years' farming:—

	Value on Taking Possession.	Value After Period Named.
Land .. ..	£135 0	£393 0
Buildings .. ..	7 0	95 12
Fences .. ..	1 8	28 4
Implements ..	11 0	80 16
Produce on hand	3 0	35 12
Live stock of all kinds .. ..	51 0	187 12
	£208 8	£820 16
		208 8

Gain in 7 3-4 years.. .. £612 8

Being an average increase of over £87 yearly.

**Cost of Growing an Acre.**

This estimate, it should be said, is not a matter of conjecture, but the result of careful investigation made by the Superintendent of the Experimental Farm at Brandon of the cost of growing an acre of wheat. This is the result of an actual experiment on a yield of twenty-nine bushels. The items of cost are given as follows:—

	s.	d.
Ploughing once .. ..	5	0
Harrowing twice .. ..	0	10
Cultivating twice .. ..	1	8
Seed .. ..	3	0
Drilling .. ..	0	11
Binding .. ..	1	4
Cord .. ..	0	10
Stooking .. ..	0	8
Stacking .. ..	2	5
Threshing .. ..	5	0
Teaming to market, 4 miles ..	1	5
Two years' rent, or interest on land valued at \$13 per acre, at 6 per cent. . . . .	7	3
Wear and tear of implements	0	10
	£1	11 2

What is said as to the cost of raising wheat in Manitoba is equally true of the



Western Canada's Golden Grain.

territories. A further illustration of the profits of wheat growing is scarcely necessary, but it may be remarked that there are scores of cases where farmers have paid the entire purchase money of their farms from

the product for that year, and in many cases have had money left with which to make a payment for an additional purchase of land.

**Other Resources than Wheat.**

While "wheat is King," it must, however, be remembered that it is by no means the only cereal grown in Western Canada. The crops of oats, barley and peas are wonderful, and the growth prodigious. Oats have yielded all the way from 60 to 90 bushels per acre, and in some cases have been known to exceed a hundred. Take barley



A Western Canada Farmstead.

again. Owing to the bright sunshine and the absence of rain usually during harvest the barley of Western Canada presents a bright appearance and is sought after by brewers everywhere, bringing several cents a bushel more than that grown in other countries. Peas, too, yield splendidly, and are entirely free from grubs and bugs. These grains are used for fattening hogs and other feeding purposes, and are in every way superior to corn. Experts say that the absence of hog cholera in this country is due largely to the excellent feed, corn not being used. Corn, however, grows splendidly here, attaining sometimes a height of ten or twelve feet. It is sometimes used by farmers for fodder and ensilage, but, generally speaking, wheat pays so much better that comparatively little attention is paid to the cultivation of Indian Corn.

**Religious Advantages.**

No territory can be a wholly desirable place unless the religious and educational requirements of the settlers are satisfied, and Manitoba, notwithstanding its youth, is abundantly supplied with churches, schools and colleges. The Canadians are essentially a religious people.

**Educational.**

Under the British North America Act of 1867, the right to legislate on matters respecting education was placed in the hands of the governments of the several

provinces, the rights and privileges of denominational and separate schools then existing being specially protected. In Ontario, the province which possesses one of the finest educational systems in the world, the total number of pupils registered in 1897 was 482,777, and the average attendance was 273,544, the proportion of attendance out of the registered number of pupils being very nearly the same (53.96 to 56.66) in the new province of Manitoba as in the long established Province of Ontario. This shows that the educational wants of the people are being attended to and thoroughly appreciated. In 1897 there were in Manitoba four provincial Normal School teachers, nine local Normal School teachers, with an attendance of 143 pupils at the long and 101 pupils at the short sessions. In addition to the common schools and Normal Schools, Collegiate Institutes for more advanced education are attached to the Public Schools at Winnipeg, Portage la Prairie, and Brandon, and the total number of pupils enrolled for the year was 554, 86, and 178 respectively. There is also a Normal School in Winnipeg for the training of teachers. The total school receipts for 1897, from government grants and municipal taxes, were £170,000, of which £91,600 went to the teachers as salaries.

The most valuable immigration agents are the railways built to and through a sparsely settled country. The life of Manitoba began with the construction of the Canadian Pacific railway, which was begun in 1881 and was completed four years later. Then immigration began to pour into Manitoba, at first principally from Ontario, but later on from the outer world. In 1898, Manitoba had 1,621 miles of track laid, or an area of 45.6 square miles of territory to each mile of track laid. Manitoba has 3.2 per cent of the population of the Dominion, but she has 9.6 per cent of the railway miles of Canada. The railway mileage of the Prairie Province is wonderful in comparison to its population. Nearly every farming district is within easy access of one of the lines or railway, while branches are being extended as the conditions of settlement demand. While it is possible in some cases, that in order to secure the advantage of free homesteads, it may be necessary to go some little distance from the railway, the policy of the government is to push forward the construction of colonization lines, so that in a very short time even the new settlements will have the advantage of railway facilities.

Considering the immense advantages offered by Western Canada as a field for the immigrant, it will be naturally asked upon what conditions can he obtain land.

### Land Regulations.

The information provided by the government is explicit. Under the Dominion Land Regulations, all surveyed even-numbered sections (excepting 8 and 26) in Manitoba and the North-West Territories, which have not been homesteaded, reserved to provide wood-lots for settlers, or otherwise disposed of or reserved, are held exclusively for homesteads. A homestead entry for one-quarter section (160 acres) of surveyed agricultural land, open to such entry, may be obtained by any person who is the sole head of a family, or by any male who has attained the age of eighteen years, on application to the local agent of Dominion lands, and on payment of an office fee of £2. The homesteader must perfect his entry by beginning actual residence on his homestead and the cultivation of a reasonable portion within six months of the date of entry, unless entry shall have been made on or after the first day of September, in which case residence need not commence until the first day of June following, and continue to live upon and cultivate the land, for at least six out of every twelve months for three years from the date of perfecting the homestead entry. In the event of a homesteader desiring to secure his patent within a shorter period than the three years provided by law, he will be permitted to purchase his homestead at the Government price at the time of entry, on furnishing proof that he has resided on the land for at least twelve months from the date of his perfecting his homestead entry, and that he has brought at least thirty acres under cultivation.

A homestead settler, whose land is destitute of timber, can, upon the payment of a fee of one shilling procure from the Crown timber agent a permit to cut the following quantities of timber free of dues: 3,400 lineal feet of building timber, 400 roof poles, and 500 posts. Any settler can obtain a permit, upon the payment of the same fee, to cut falling timber for fuel or fencing for his own use. Leases of grazing lands in Manitoba and the North-west can be obtained at an annual rental of one penny an acre. The leases are granted for a period not exceeding twenty-one years, and no single lease covers a greater area than 100,000 acres. The



lessee is obliged, within each of the three years from the date of granting of the lease, to place upon the land not less than one-third of the whole amount of stock which is required to be placed upon the land leased, namely, one head of cattle for every 20 acres of land covered by the lease, and shall, during the rest of the term, maintain cattle thereon in that proportion. After placing the prescribed number of cattle upon his leasehold, the lessee may purchase land within the tract leased for a house, a farm or a corral.

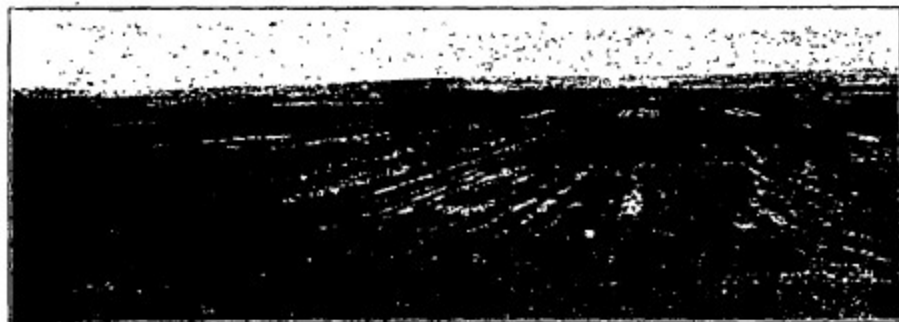
It will be seen from these regulations that the Canadian Government is no hard task-master. Immigrants are required for the development of the Dominion, and land is offered on the most liberal terms to those who desire to start life in a country that offers a home and a prosperous

future to all those who have sturdy arms and industrious habits.

It will be well to bear in mind that no question of naturalization arises in connection with the emigration of British subjects to Canada. Settling in the Dominion makes no more change in this respect than the removal from the provincial town to London, Dublin, or Edinburgh, and the newly-arrived immigrant has all the privileges of his Canadian-born fellow-subject. As regards foreigners, the Canadian laws are very liberal. The stranger can at once transact any business and hold real estate without being naturalized, and by residing three years in the country and taking the oath of allegiance, he becomes a naturalized British subject, and acquires political and all other rights.

## THE CLIMATE OF WESTERN CANADA.

Very few Storms—Delightful Atmosphere, and a Perfect Health-Giver.



Typographical View of Farm, near Brandon, from the North.

**C**ONTRARY to preconceived ideas and reports industriously promulgated the climate of Manitoba is much milder and decidedly healthier than several States of the American Union further south. This, at first sight, anomalous condition, is partly due to the country being drier in winter, and not so far above the level of the sea. The winter is dry and bracing, not like the raw and chilly cold that prevails in countries in more southern longitudes, with an average temperature a few degrees higher. Even in Manitoba a south-western wind at zero produces a greater sensation of cold than a clear, sunny day when the thermometer reads

25 degrees below. Manitoba has fewer stormy days in the year than perhaps any other point on the American continent. Windy days are very rare, cyclones and tornados are unknown, and the fluctuations from intense cold to sudden thaw have no existence.

It may be a fact not generally known, and a little startling at first mention, that comparatively little snow falls on the prairies, the average depth being eighteen inches, and horses, cattle and sheep graze out nearly all winter. The snow leaves the ground early, and ploughing begins before the middle of April. The average mean temperature of Manitoba in summer