

# BRANDON TRADE SHOWS ADVANCE

## Bank Clearings Increase and Unemployed Find Work in Harvest Fields.

Brandon, Man., Aug. 26.—Threatened by frost during every month of the present year, it was not until yesterday that King Frost finally gained the upper hand, as far as the garden crops are concerned. Damage to the extent of several hundred dollars was sustained by some gardeners, while others escaped unhurt. The cucumber crop was badly nipped, while the growing process was stopped with regard to potatoes.

Despite this, there will be a much heavier potato crop in this district than was the case last year, and rust and other diseases which affected their value is not in evidence.

There is little now to prevent the optimistic hopes of the farmers for a bumper wheat crop being realized. All the wheat at the Experimental farm is down and threshing is in full blast. The same will apply to quite a number of farmers south of this district.

### Barley Nipped by Frost.

Farmers to the east of the city complain that their barley fields were badly nipped by the frost, but, on the whole, little damage has been done and will not affect the extent or the excellence of this year's harvest yield.

After a prolonged spell of comparative idleness, railway workers are having a very busy time. Every available locomotive is utilized and will likely continue so for some time to come.

Trade conditions are already brightening up, as is shown by clearing-house returns. Bank clearings for the week ending today were \$397,305, as compared with \$364,019 for the corresponding week of last year. The unemployed, for the most part, have made their exodus to the harvest fields, and the prospects are that there will be less hardship to be endured this winter than last.

### An Optimistic Soldier.

That wounded Canadian soldiers have the cheerfulness under gloomy circumstances of a Mark Tapley is shown by a letter received here from Pte. Curtis, a Brandon boy, who is lying in an English hospital. He says: "I had two operations on my left leg, but it is doing fine now. I am writing this letter with my left

hand, as I cannot use my right one yet, although it is just about all healed over by this time. I tell you that an hospital is not a bad place to be in after all, for it is a great change from the front. Believe me, those Germans are not a bit down-hearted, and we are even more cheerful of the way it will end than they."

Miniature battles between the allies and Huns, participated in by lads of very tender age, are of frequent occurrence in this city. In one of these a young Russian had his head badly cut yesterday, and was successfully treated by Dr. Pickard, the local medical officer.

Labor day will be celebrated here this year by field sports, organized by officers and men of the 79th Overseas Battalion. Baseball and football games will be played, and the men concerned are busy selecting teams for the purpose.

Stealing a watch from an interned German prisoner while the latter was asleep caused J. McIntosh to be brought up at the police court here today. He pleaded guilty, and was remanded for sentence.