Review of Canadian National Exhibition Reveals It As World's Largest

Only 53 Years Since Inception — Has Gained World-Wide Prominence — Every Activity and Products Shown in Detail—Aptly Called "Show Window of Nations"

After the comparatively short existence of fifty-three years the Canadian National Exhibition at Toronto has achieved the unique success of becoming the world's largest annual exposition. This is not an idle boast for the attendance has at times exceeded the two million mark and the park buildings and equipment have a value in excess of twenty-one million dollars.

Eleven years after the Confederation of the Canadian Provinces was effected and hope surged high in the breasts of Canadians, the Exhibition came into being, and from that time forward kept astride with the new country and in many instances was a source of inspiration for new and astounding achievements from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Through the decades the industrial development and the Canadian National Exhibition have progressed together. From the time of its inception in 1879 as the "Toronto Industrial Exhibition," until the year 1904, its influence was almost entirely local, but it was steadfastly becoming Dominion-wide in activities. In that year the Board of Directors realized that the whole Dominion of Canada was vitally interested in the future and the activities of the institution and had the name changed to meet the new conditions.

From the exposition of 1904 to the close of the Great War it served only Canada, but with the cessation of hostilities the nations of the world turned their thoughts to trade development and sought a means of fostering world trade. The Canadian National Exhibition presented the opportunity, and to-day most of the manufacturing nations of the western and eastern hemispheres are increasing the size of their exhibits at this institution. It has now out grown its purely national characteristics and has become a permanent "World's Fair."

To say that it is one of the wonders of the world might be considered by some to be a broad and extravagant statement, but nevertheless it is one of the most important and most unique wonders existent in the 20th century. For here are gathered for the short space of two weeks of every year the prized possessions and the best of the products of the world. Every phase of human activity is represented in a detail of astounding completeness.

The display of the Federation of British Industries is the largest sent by any country to an exposition and represents a combined capital investment of approximately thirty billions of dollars. France, United States, Bermuda, Cuba, British West Africa, Mexico, New Zealand, Australia, India, the Union of South Africa, Panama and many other countries have exhibits at the Canadian National Exhibition.

It is a constant wonder to the visitors who view the Canadian National Exhibition for the first time that such a project could be perfected in the span of 53 years. Here within the limits of the city exists the phenomena of a second city. For that is precisely what the exposition is. It is populated yearly by a cosmopolitan population drawn from every quarter of the globe. It contains 100 permanent structures of solid and lasting construction, many of which have cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to erect, and four in excess of one million dollars each. It stretches along Toronto's waterfront for a distance of 1½ miles. The grounds have an area of 350 acres, through which winds 9½ miles of paved streets. It has its own telegraph, telephone, street lighting, street cleaning, transportation, customs, postal, police, fire and hospital systems as well as its own administrative department. The buildings provide over 2,000,000 square feet of exhibit space. Its prize lists yearly amount to the excess of $100,000. To stage this colossal attraction costs about $1,000,000 annually.

It has been the constant endeavour of the management to provide a judicious admixture of education and recreation. The arts and sciences, industry, agriculture, sport and pageantry are offered for fourteen days and nights, this year from August 26th to September 10th. The buildings are of stone, steel, brick and concrete, and of exquisite architectural design. The park is covered with groves of beautiful trees, magnificent horticultural effects have been obtained throughout the 350 acres, and the whole affords a most desirable place for the combination of business and pleasure.

Designed primarily for the stimulation of trade, the broadening of markets and the promotion of the general welfare, the Canadian National Exhibition has now reached the point at which it is described as the "Show Window of the Nations"—a truly international organization for the promotion of business without losing sight of the cultural phases so necessary to the all-round advancement of the people and their interests. Canada, the great young giant of the North, continues to expand and progress, stimulated immeasurably by the Canadian National Exhibition.

Parade of Cattle—Colliseum Arena.

Exhibition Notes

It is evident that the Seventh Marathon Swim will attract many new contestants this year. Applications are coming in from star swimmers all over the world. The first event, the women's swim, 10 miles, will be held on Friday, August 26th, and the men will compete at 15 miles on Wednesday, August 31st.

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Besses-o'-th'-Barn, England's premier all-brass organization and the oldest band in existence, is to play. This noted band has won the Gold Challenge Shield, 151 first prizes, five challenge cups and more than 100 special awards. Thirty other prominent bands will also give free concerts.

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An immense pageant, "The Triumph," will be staged nightly in front of the grandstand. Fifteen hundred performers in colorful and historic costumes, wonderful lighting and scenic effects, music and magnificent pyratechnic displays make this an event long to be remembered.

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Two splendid art galleries feature the outstanding creations of the painter, the sculptor, the handicraftsman and the photographer. The works of leading artists of Canada and the United States will be shown this year.

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The world's largest and finest motor show structure—the Automotive Building—will display advance models of the 1933 motor cars and automotive products.

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The British Schneider Cup plane, holder of the world's official flying record of 388.67 miles per hour, is being brought from England.

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Athletes direct from this year's Olympic Games will compete in the International track meet and amateur swimming races.

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The interested visitor will obtain an all-embracing conception of Canada's manufacturing industries from the more than 15,000 displays.

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Children's dancing contests will feature the 1932 Young Canada's Day programme.

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Outboard motorboat and yachting races will be featured on aquatic sports programme.

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Believe it or not. The Canadian National Exhibition has its own post office, lighting and power plant, customs house, telephone exchange, telegraph offices, street cleaning department, hospital, police station, fire department, garbage collection, banks, transportation system, etc. — a completely self-contained community — a city within a city.

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Lovers of the great outdoors—the prospector, the hunter, the angler and the camper, will find the Province of Ontario Building of absorbing interest. Live specimens of practically every type from Ontario's forests and streams may be seen amid natural surroundings.

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Canada's basic industry—agriculture, comes into its own at the Canadian National Exhibition. Its competitions and exhibits of horses, cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, pet stock, dairy products and farm equipment, make this the outstanding agricultural show on the continent.

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Kaye Don, the great British sportsman, who is to make Gar Wood "step on the gas," at Detroit, this summer, will be on hand with his new superboat "Miss England III."

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More than 750,000 school children of Ontario have received invitations to attend the Canadian National Exhibition as guests of the management on Young Canada's Day, Monday, August 29th.

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The Process Building provides the visitor with a close-up of the actual process of manufacturer of a host of articles in common use.

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The Horse Palace, Coliseum and Live Stock Pavilion is the world's largest exposition building, covering 24½ acres.

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Music Day, one of outstanding attractiveness at the Canadian National Exhibition, falls this year on Thursday, September 1st.

The Live Stock Pavilion accommodates 2,000 head of cattle, 1,500 sheep and 1,200 swine.

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The new Engineering and Electrical Building has been the subject of much favorable comment since its erection. Its towering Corinthian columns and imposing statuary cause the visitor to linger and to admire before entering its equally interesting interior.

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The amazing developments of science and invention are demonstrated in the Engineering and Electrical Building. The display covers a wide range of mechanical achievements from the tiny electric clock to mammoth cranes and factory equipment weighing many tons.

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The permanent buildings at the Canadian National Exhibition amaze the visitor. These great palace-like edifices — dozens of them distributed throughout a beautiful park of 350 acres—would arouse the envy of an Eastern potentate.

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For the feminine visitor the Fashion Show has its particular appeal. Each afternoon and evening, spectators will see the latest creations displayed by over one hundred mannequins.

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Exhibition Chorus of 2,000 voices, accompanied by England's oldest brass band—the "Besses-o'-th'-Barn," will be heard in four concerts this year, Aug. 27, Sept. 1, 6 and 10, in the Coliseum.

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An amateur swim of one and a half miles for boys, and of one mile for girls for Canadian championships are carded on the aquatic programme.

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Railways, coach lines and steamship companies have offered especially low excursion rates to Toronto for the Canadian National Exhibition, August 26 to September 10.

The cost of constructing the Ontario Government Building at the Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, was approximately $700,000.

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The grandstand and paddock have a capacity of twenty-four thousand eight hundred.

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The cost of staging the Canadian National Exhibition annually is $1,225,000.

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This year's agricultural prize list of the Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, is in excess of $125,000.

"Anything wrong in front, mate?" said one driver to another in a long traffic wait. "Yes; the copper's gone to lunch an' left 'is 'and up."

"Ever been to the National Gallery? "No, we have plenty of that sort of thing at home. You see, my daughter paints."

Looking through The Prince's Gate—Eastern Entrance

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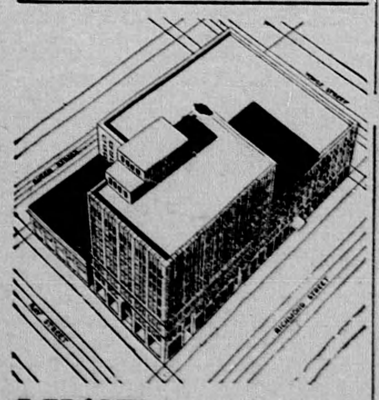
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