

Edison

A UTOPIAN STATE

A PROVINCE THAT IS ACTUALLY
GOVERNED BY ITS PEOPLE—THE
MONO-PARTY SYSTEM OF GOVERN-
MENT IN FORCE IN ALBERTA AND
IT WORKS ADMIRABLY—THE SIM-
PLICITY OF THE ADMINISTRATION
—THE SPLENDID MEN IN CONTROL

(Edward W. Thomson, in the Boston Transcript)

1909?

"The government of Alberta is about to begin a new railway policy which will directly affect the C. P. R., and which may have important results for the Hill system of American roads. Perhaps it is not necessary to tell Transcript readers that Alberta is the Canadian Province just eastward of British Columbia, on which it often abuts in the Rocky Mountains. It is rich in coal mines, cattle ranching grounds, gas fields, forests; it possesses what are declared to be the greatest petroleum areas in the world. But its lands are mostly agricultural. They include the vast unoccupied region called the Peace River country. That is in North Alberta. Many settlers are finding their way up there, since there the prairie trends quickly toward the Pacific Ocean, from which it is separated by a comparatively narrow chain of the Rockies. The Grand Trunk Pacific and the Canadian Northern are both under construction to within what may be called sight of that enormous fertile area now largely retained by fur traders, by Indians and by half breeds, though it is thirty years since one of its districts, seven hundred miles north of Edmonton (which is nearly 400 miles north of lat. 49, or the U. S. boundary), showed the best wheat exhibited at a World's Fair.

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