

centre. This year many well-known Winnipeggers are spending their holidays here, camping on the lake shore or boarding. The present store of Geo. Manson at this point is practically a new building and is a handsome and commodious one. Mr. Manson is one of the oldest residents in these parts, having first located in '79. He says business never was better with him and as an evidence of his prosperity he is erecting a fine new residence. Robt. Scott, of Shoal Lake, has made himself very widely known by his operations in the manufacture of butter. His creamery at Shoal Lake has been described and illustrated before in *The Commercial* so that we need not go into details now. Improvements are always being made though to keep it up with the times; the latest of these is a pasteurizing apparatus. This creamery is conceded by all who have seen it to be one of the very finest to be found anywhere and Mr. Scott is justly proud of it. The general

able stopping place for travellers and others built. The creamery at this point is now operated by Mr. Laycock, who is also a prominent storekeeper and cattle dealer. The output of this creamery is being increased steadily. Ridington, the contractor, who lives here, reports a number of fine buildings being erected by the farmers in this neighborhood.

Binscarth and Russell, are two well-known points on this line. The latter has had several new buildings added recently, and one important one is now nearing completion, that is the new store of Smellie Bros. & Co. When completed this will give this firm very large and complete business premises. They have also a store at Binscarth. Binscarth is looking forward to the erection of a new and suitable hotel building.

Between these points and Yorkton, the terminus of the line, a number of small but thriving settlements are

Church of England congregation is building a new church and a number of citizens are putting up private residences. The Arnold House is a new hotel which was opened not many months ago.

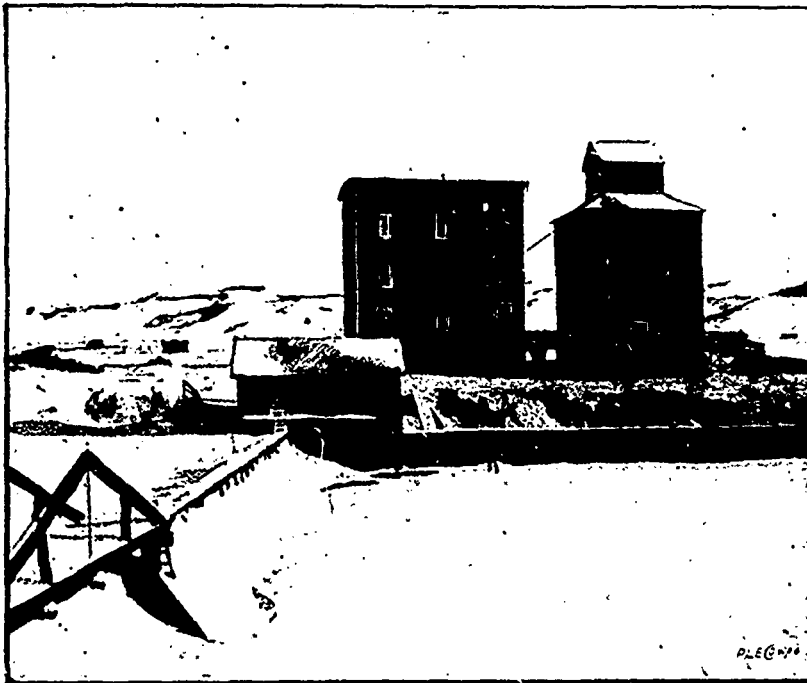
Such are some of the changes and improvements to be noticed along the M. & N. W. this year. No doubt future years will show an equal amount of growth and as settlement takes place and population increases, new industries will spring up and present ones be developed in this rich and fertile region that will place it among the first of the industrial and agricultural regions of western Canada.

A Good Class of Settlers.

As an evidence of the extent to which Manitoba is attracting attention as a field for agricultural and kindred enterprises the fact may be noted that during a recent visit of a representative of *The Commercial* to the northwestern part of Manitoba and among other towns to Yorkton, it was found that it is becoming quite common for delegations composed of three or four farmers from some one or other of the grain and cattle raising states of the American union to make a tour of the different districts in that part of the province and after quietly sizing up the situation return for their families and to advise their neighbors and friends to move to Canada. One of these reconnoitering parties was visiting Yorkton while *The Commercial* representative was there. It was composed of two ex-Canadians who have been living for the past eighteen years in Iowa and have done well there, one of the men being the owner of no less than three valuable farms, but having heard so much about the capabilities of Western Canada they have decided to investigate and if reports are found to be true and the country to their liking they intend to buy ranching land and move here with their families. Not only this, but each of them have a half a dozen neighbors who will also move to Canada if these do. Thus quietly, but none the less surely, are these western prairies meeting with the attention they deserve as fields for settlement and homemaking.

Tea Standards.

The committee composed of Messrs. Doye, Montreal; Ince, Toronto; Macpherson, Hamilton; and Bate, Ottawa; who have been collecting samples of tea at the different centres for transmission to Ottawa, have completed their labors. The government analyst is now engaged in testing these teas, and such as do not stand the test will be prohibited from entry into Canada. From the remainder, which pass the test, all of which will be entitled to admission, the committee composed of the gentlemen above named will draw up a standard by infusion, and when they have done so, teas for admission into Canada will have to scale up to the standard. The committee expect to get through their work by the middle of November, and after that time teas will be inspected by standard, and not by the present method. It is understood that the proposed standard will keep out all teas that sell wholesale for less than 15c, as values now run. All members of the trade are in favor of the standard method of inspection, and also of shutting out the cheap inferior grades of tea which wholesale around 11c to 12c.



FLOUR MILL, ELEVATOR AND WATER POWER AT MILLWOOD.

This industry is near the crossing of the Assiniboine River by the M. & N. W. Ry. Winter scene. Ice does not interfere with the operation of water powers in the winters in Manitoba, as a clear sheet of water runs below the ice.

store of this gentleman is a fine establishment and is equipped with all modern improvements. The stock is not excelled in quality or appearance outside of Winnipeg in the province. The Hudson's Bay company are also large general traders at Shoal Lake and have fine premises. A new hotel has been opened this year at Shoal Lake which largely increases its capacity to accommodate travellers and pleasure-seekers.

Between Shoal Lake and Birtle, the next important point west, you come to the villages of Kellie and Solsgrith, the latter being an especially lively place this year and several additions are contemplated to its business community.

Birtle is enjoying a fair share of prosperity this year, and its stores and places of business are adding much to the volume of business done.

Roxwarren has one addition to its business community—Henry Leckie's general store—and it is having a suit-

sited, which each add their quota to the volume of business transacted in this country yearly. Saltcoats is the largest of these and the town which bears this name is now assuming considerable size and is widely known on accounts of its settlements of Scotch Crofters.

Yorkton is a thriving centre and is a supply point and shipping station for a large area of ranching and farming land. Business is done here with points as much as one hundred miles west and north. Some very productive and well-to-do settlements on the line of the proposed extension of this route to Prince Albert find Yorkton their most convenient market town. Several general stores are already finding a lucrative trade here and others are gradually being added. The Hudson's Bay company are putting up a new building now which is to be occupied this fall with a general stock. L. Beck, general merchant, is also erecting a new store building. The