

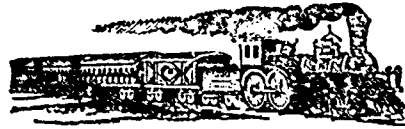
Petroleum in Manitoba.

The *Birtle Observer*, whose editor appears to be well informed on the history and resources of Manitoba, judging from the many excellent articles of this nature appearing in his papers, says:

"This country with its almost boundless grain fields, its magnificent pasture lands, its great coal beds and the splendid fisheries at Hudson's Bay, which it might have, is no doubt pretty well enriched by nature; perhaps no other country has so many advantages, and the recent discovery of petroleum in the Riding Mountains, and almost within a day's drive of Birtle, adds another resource of inestimable value to the many sources of wealth which this district was understood to possess.

For several years petroleum was known to exist in the country north of the Mountains and various attempts had been made to strike the deposit but without success. It seems that the search was carried on too far down the slope, where only small portions of the oil had been washed along by the rains could be found. A man experienced in all the mysteries of seeking for oil in Pennsylvania was procured and he quickly selected the proper place in which to try and the trial seems to have been followed by immediate discovery of an excellent quality of oil existing in such quantities above the rock as to give assurance that there is immense deposits below. During the summer there will, no doubt, be some valuable and startling strikes of oil and in all probability capital will be attracted and a new industry established in Manitoba. A large district on the shores of Lake Dauphin and the rivers which flow into it will be opened for settlement and it is quite likely that ere long a railway will be constructed from some point on the M. & N. W. Railway to the lake, which is fifteen or twenty miles wide and thirty or forty long, and receives many rivers that flow from the mountains. Those rivers pass through the finest forests of spruce, which are sufficient to supply an immense quantity of lumber.

The London, England, *Money Market Review* recently contained a report of the annual general meeting of the Bank of B. N. A. The report of the directors, was as follows: "The court of directors have pleasure in submitting the accompanying balance-sheet and statement of profit and loss account as on the 31st of December last, showing £59,986 12s. 8d. as the net profit for the year 1887. Out of this sum the directors have now to report the declaration of a dividend of 40s. per share, payable, free from income tax, on the 5th of April next, making, with the dividend paid in October, a distribution of 7½ per cent. for the year ending December 31st, 1887. The chairman made an admirable address. It showed very careful management on the part of agency managers. Profits had been contributed by all branches except Winnipeg and Vancouver, which had been recently established. The profits were £10,000 greater than those of the previous year. Undivided profits now net £240,000, and the reason a greater dividend was not made this year, was a desire to increase the undivided profits until they shall have reached £250,000. The bank has been in existence fifty years and is on a very sound basis.



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No 4 MIXED	No. 2 PASS.	STATIONS.	No 1 PASS.	No 3 MIXED
LEAVE	LEAVE		ARRIVE	ARRIVE
13 00	13 00	Portage la Prairie	14 45	14 45
15 30	14 50	Gladstone	13 05	12 20
17 25	16 02	Necipawa	11 35	10 00
19 45	17 00	Minnedosa	10 15	8 40
	18 10	Rapid City	9 00	
22 30	18 48	Shoal Lake	8 52	5 05
21 10	19 55	Birtle	7 45	3 30
	22 25	Binscarth	5 10	
	23 45	Russell	3 45	
	1 05	Langenburg	2 30	
ARRIVE	ARRIVE		LEAVE	LAVE

Trains. No. 4, Mondays and Thursdays. No. 1, Wednesdays and Saturdays. No. 2, Tuesdays and Fridays. No. 3, Tuesdays and Fridays. Trains leave Minnedosa for Rapid City Tuesdays and Fridays at 17.10, returning leave Rapid City Wednesdays and Saturdays at 9. For Langenburg leave Birtle Fridays only at 21.00; returning leave Langenburg Saturdays only at 2.30. For Russell leave Birtle Tuesdays only at 21 returning leave Russell Wednesdays only at 3.45, making connection with main line trains. Above trains connect at Portage la Prairie with trains of the Canadian Pacific Railway to and from Winnipeg. For information as to Freight or Passenger Rates apply to A. Macdonald, Assistant Freight and Passenger Agent Portage la Prairie, or to W. R. BAKER, General Superintendent.

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Chicago Fast Ex.....	d6.25 p.m.	d7.05 p.m.
Des Moines Passenger.....	a6.25 p.m.	a7.05 p.m.
Excelsior and Watertown.....	a8.00 a.m.	a8.45 a.m.
Arlington and Excelsior.....	a4.15 p.m.	a4.50 p.m.
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