

Saskatoon's Remarkable Growth and Prosperity

**Illustrated by Increase from a Hamlet to a Large City Within Seven
Years and Continuous Subsequent Expansion.**

Our pioneer settlers, who evinced a remarkable spirit of harmonious co-operation where the interests of Saskatoon were concerned, soon recognized their advantages of location when the productiveness of the surrounding country was impressed by every sod turned by the plow. The three villages, West Saskatoon, Nutana, and Riversdale, merged into one community, and, for all practical purposes, the Town of Sutherland, about three miles east, where are the C.P.R. roundhouse and car repair shops, could not avoid the partnership, with the result that Saskatoon grew into a City, as one might say, overnight. During Canada's busy years, 1909 to 1913, Saskatoon's building activities were phenomenal. Whole streets sprang into existence, with hotels, stores, and office buildings, where shortly before there had only been raw prairie. Such a state of affairs had no discoverable precedent.

A HAMLET IN 1903

From being a small village in 1903, with a population of slightly over 100, Saskatoon had grown in 1914 to be a flourishing City containing over 20,000 people. The Provincial Census of 1916 gave a population of 21,064, after two years of war and vigorous recruiting. The population in 1918, based on the man-power registration figures as published by the Dominion Government and calculated upon their approved method of estimating, is 25,411. The present population is estimated at about 30,000.

The official building permits taken from the City records for the years in question are most instructive as showing the continuing growth of the City. The figures are as follows:—

Year	No. of Permits	Value of Buildings	Year	No. of Permits	Value of Buildings
1909	254	\$1,002,055	1914	396	\$ 561,500
1910	433	2,817,771	1915	24	20,200
1911	806	5,029,366	1916	110	146,150
1912	1,783	7,640,530	1917	178	582,739
1913	834	4,453,845	1918	275	604,715
			1919	357	1,404,590

Readers will note effect of the outbreak of war and consequent locking up of capital and then the steady growth after recovery from the blow.

A CITY OF FIVE BRIDGES

Saskatoon might aptly be termed "A City of Five Bridges." These five bridges all cross the South Saskatchewan River—the great waterway of the Prairies—within the City limits. The newest,