

Calgary Real Estate and Live Stock Bulletin

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR SETTLERS AND CAPITALISTS.

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ALBERTA.

THE GREAT Ranching, Agricultural and Mineral country at the base of the Rocky Mountains. But little more than a decade has passed since first it received its name. Prior to this it was regularly talked of as the "Bow River Country," the "Chinook Belt," the favorite winter quarters of tens of thousands of buffalo, moose, deer and other game. Inhabited by the native Indians and the few fur traders and hunters, chiefly the employees of the Hudson's Bay Co. Previous to 1874, in which year the N.W.M.P. Force was organized, little was heard about the country now designated Alberta. The members of the police force were among the first to send out reports of the country, of its genial climate, its wealth of grasses, timber and minerals, and its wonderful capabilities for producing cereals and root crops when cultivated. As a result of the reports sent east a number of companies were formed some ten years ago for the purpose of carrying on cattle and stock raising. In 1882 the first large herds were driven across the line from Montana—only ten years since the great industry was started, and to-day we find Alberta acknowledged to be the greatest ranching country on the Continent; for it has been demonstrated beyond question that the Alberta rancher can grow and ripen beeves at less cost and with less loss through the inclemency of winter weather or disease than can the rancher in any other part of America. It has been fully proven that in Alberta cattle and horses can live out the whole year round and keep in good health and condition and as a result, the country, although but in its infancy, has become a supply emporium for the meat markets of Great Britain as also those of the Pacific Province. But it is not alone in matters of ranching that the country has so rapidly developed since the advent of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1883. Steady progress has been the watchword throughout the length and breadth of the land. For a little time it was mooted that the country was adapted for cattle raising only, and that farming could not be carried on successfully, but this erroneous theory was soon exploded and good reports of Alberta went abroad and settlers were induced to see the land for themselves, and as a result, happy, prosperous homes are being daily built and tens of thousands of acres of land have been brought under cultivation and as a wheat, barley and oat growing country Alberta holds her own with any province in the Dominion.

The opening up of the country north and south by the Calgary, Edmonton & Macleod Railway has given a fresh impetus to settlement. The building of this railroad has been of the greatest advantage to Alberta. It has brought millions of acres of the richest land in the West within access of markets, and ere it is completed it will traverse some of the richest mineral and timber districts in Canada. Cer-

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