

Inauguration of the City

What has for some time been known as the town of Prince Albert, in Saskatchewan territory, became, on November 30, 1904, a full-fledged city. On that day the inauguration ceremonies took place, and the citizens entered into the celebration in a truly loyal manner. Young and old seemed to be imbued with the desire to make the day one of the most pleasant and happy, and everything passed off ex-

cellent feast were a number of toasts, cheerfully responded to by leading gentlemen. The Western Home Monthly has pleasure in presenting to its readers in this issue pictures of the various individuals who presided at the banquet, and the speakers and soloists on the occasion; also the school children who took part in the parade, and a number of the floats. The Advocate, editorially, had this to say of the important event: Another milestone has been passed in the history of Prince Albert which marks its elevation to the title and dignity of a city. The first buildings within the limits of the present city were erected some two score years ago. The early settlers were quick to recognize the natural advantages as a townsite of a pleasant valley situated between the sheltering plateau to the south and the Saskatchewan River. The Hudson's Bay Co. built here a post, and a farseeing Presbyterian missionary

which, together with the decorations on the various public and private buildings, lent an air of enterprise and energy characteristic of a progressive, prosperous and contented western community. The feature of the morning was the industrial street parade, which, in diversity, numbers and elaborateness of the floats, would be hard to outdo in any community of equal size in the Northwest.

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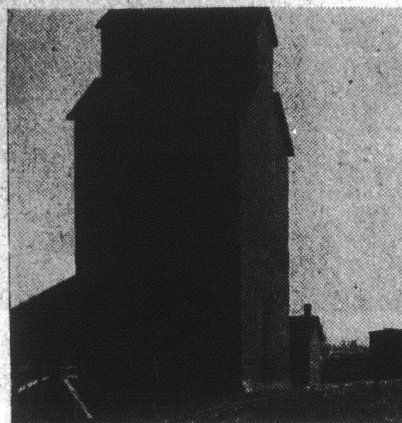
PRINCE ALBERT, SASK.

This picture of the new city was taken from a steamer on the Saskatchewan river eight years ago.

ceedingly well, "unequaled by any other function of a similar nature."

And why not? says The Advocate. The important occasion of the inception of the city was worthy of the elaborate decorations, industrial displays, concert, banquet and ball which went to make up the total of the day's pleasures.

The city had the usual holiday appear-



PRINCE ALBERT ELEVATORS AND STATION.

ance, flags flying, bunting and evergreen decorations were abundantly displayed. A handsome arch spanned the approach to the city hall, bearing the motto, "Welcome to Our City," the dates "1885" and "1904" on either side, and decorated with emblematic British national flags, evergreens, etc., all handsomely illuminated electrically, being a most creditable conception,

The procession was in charge of Marshal Gus Wagner. First there was an escort of Royal Northwest Mounted Police, in charge of Sergt. Webber; next came Duck Lake veterans of 1885, a seven-pounder gun, carriage and ammunition tender, the citizens' band and city fire brigade. Behind the brigade were carriages in which were Hon. F. W. G. Haultain, Premier of the Northwest Territories, and Mayor Gillmor, Hon. G. H. V. Bul-yea, Territorial Commissioner of Public Works, the city council, invited guests and school children. Then followed an exceedingly creditable number of floats, depicting the resources of the district and the various businesses carried on in the place.

In the afternoon there was a prom-



PRINCE ALBERT CITY HALL.

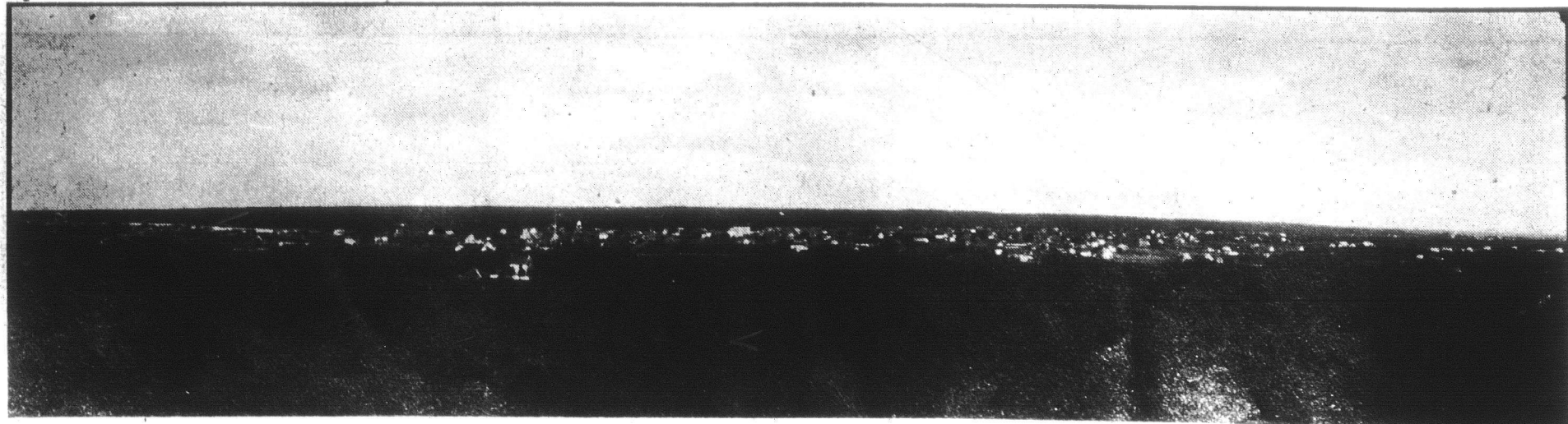
Showing the City Band, which led the parade on inauguration day. Members of the band also played as an orchestra at the banquet and assembly.

located a homestead nearby for his church.

Thus was laid the first modest foundations of a hamlet which in 1885 became the incorporated town of Prince Albert. Until 1890 it was 250 miles from the nearest railway, and its apparent far northerly location and difficulty of access no doubt largely accounted for its slowness of growth. Any one looking at the map would easily be led to suppose that it is much farther north than it is. Its latitude, in fact, is about that of Liverpool. With the recent increased flow of immigration into the Northwest it has

grown rapidly, and this year its population and importance so warranted recognition as a city that on the seventh day of October, 1904, it received its charter of incorporation as a city.

On last Wednesday it celebrated its civic natal day. The end of November is not usually favored anywhere with weather suitable for outdoor display. Nevertheless the committee having the matter in charge arranged a program which was carried out satisfactorily. A bright sun shone down on the streets covered with the first light snowfall of the season. The procession, starting from the Arch of Welcome in front



BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF PRINCE ALBERT, LOOKING NORTH.