

Leduc, Alta., and District.

No part of the Northwest Territories of Canada offers better inducements to the hardy and ambitious home-seeker than the district west of Leduc. A vast extent of country studded with groves of timber, adorned by picturesque lakes, and diversified by creeks and rivers, stretches westward a distance of 200 miles to the foothills of the Rockies. What more can the enterprising pioneer ask than what awaits him here: Tracts of open prairie, with a soil of unequalled fertility, hay in great abundance, a bountiful supply of good water, coal for fuel lying near the surface, and timber for the builder. Within a radius of twenty miles square three portable saws were at work last winter.

The town of Leduc is destined to become one of the most prominent towns on the C. & E. Ry. It is about centrally located in one of the finest mixed farming districts of Alberta. Owing to it not being advertised to any extent, the growth has been spontaneous, without any boom. It now comprises a flour mill, three elevators, five general stores, hardware and furniture stores, two hotels, five implement agencies, three blacksmith shops, butcher shop, jeweler, two doctors, two drug stores, one bank, harness shop, four churches, a fine schoolhouse, one laundry, one restaurant, two lumber yards, a large pork-packing establishment of a brickyard. Thirty-seven new buildings were erected in Leduc during the summer of 1902, and fifteen more are now under course of erection. It is estimated that this year's improvements will aggregate \$50,000. An enterprising Business Men's Association is organized here, with Wm. Douglas as president; R. T. Telford, vice-president; Mr. Clemens, corresponding secretary; K. Martin, recording secretary; Mr. Manning, treasurer; Mr. Johns, press correspondent. A lumber mill and box factory are operated here by R. T. Telford. Last year, Mr. Telford's mill turned out 547,000 feet of lumber. A flour mill manufactures a high grade of flour in town, and three grain elevators handle grain for export purposes. Leduc is steadily forging ahead.

The Leduc district is chiefly occupied in mixed farming and stock-raising. A very fine grade of malt barley is grown here. Large quantities of hogs, eggs and butter are shipped from Leduc, and residents claim that no district can compete with them in these products.

Citizens of the town are trying to secure a pulp mill, and are prepared to give material assistance to an industry of this kind, for a very fine quality of pulp wood is in abundance here.

The D. Wade Packing Co., Limited, have a large pork-packing establishment here. They are exporters of beef, cattle, swine, poultry and other live stock, fresh and cured meats, farm and garden produce, etc. The settler, therefore, has a ready market for all his produce.

Bouchier & Johns do a large real estate business in the district, and have 8,000 acres of improved lands, as well as a quantity of wild lands for sale. Mr. Bouchier has been a Government land guide for a number of years, and in that capacity has become thoroughly acquainted with land lying tributary to the Calgary & Edmonton Railway.

Free homesteads may be procured to the east within twelve miles of the town and within twenty miles to the westward, while C. P. R. land sells at five and six dollars per acre.



View of Main St., Leduc, Alta.



Leduc Public School, Leduc, Alta.



The Elevators at Leduc, Alta.