

## EDMONTON, ALBERTA

As immigration pours into our North-West, such well-placed towns as Edmonton, on the river Saskatchewan, are sure to benefit. Indeed, the growth of Edmonton has already been marked, for it contains between 6,000 and 7,000 people. For nearly a hundred years after a trading-post was established there in, say, 1784, the place scarcely grew. Although known to Manitobans and to other dwellers of the plains as the centre of an extensive and especially rich district of pasturing and arable land, the outside world knew or cared little about it, and, although its growth was slow, it had begun. In 1897 or thereabout, however, the Calgary and Edmonton railway made the town easy of access, farmers and ranchers took up land along the railway or

near it, and the town began to fill up. In September, 1903, when the writer saw Edmonton, a land boom was in progress, and \$200 to \$300 per foot front was being paid for building lots on the main street.

The coal deposits in and around the town will prove of enormous value to the surrounding country, and must promote the growth of manufacture in the town itself. Already there are brickyards and lumber industries established; a great trade in furs is being done; and it is stated that a linen factory, 100 feet by 400 feet, is shortly to be put in operation to use the flax which is cultivated thereabout. Building is going on actively; the structures erected in the town last year are of an estimated value of \$2,500,000 to \$3,000,000; and during the present year by the look of things this figure will be much exceeded. A street railway

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