

Along the C.P.R. West of Winnipeg

TERRITORIAL TOWNS.

INDIAN HEAD.

This town is enjoying a veritable business boom due to the magnificent wheat returns, no point in the west having better crops this year, the average yield being placed anywhere from 20 to 30 bushels, and many crops have gone over 30 by a good deal. This yield, united with the high price and good quality has made farming in Eastern Assinibola double discount all the Klondyke results yet in. There are now five elevators at Indian Head and three at Sintaluta, just east of Indian Head. Much of the wheat between the two points goes indifferently to one or the other, the market being practically the same. Building has taken a great move, brick blocks three stories high being the usual style. A. J. Osment has built a really splendid hotel, a 3-storey brick, with splendid basement, size 50x80. There are 64 rooms, the house has hot and cold water, baths, etc., is lighted with acetylene gas of the best system. The cellars contain cisterns holding 1,500 barrels, all the water from the large roof being conducted to it. The sample rooms are also in the basement, while the ground floor has office, billiard and bar rooms, sitting and dining rooms and kitchen. A. Davidson is to be landlord and he has fitted the building up in every particular to accord with the first-class style of the building, the furnishings being the equal of any hotel in the west.

Geo. Gordon has also commenced the erection of a large 3-storey brick hotel, with stone basement, etc. It will not, however, be completed for this season's trade. Jas. Hastings has erected a three-storey brick block, 25x60, which he will occupy with a confectionery and flour and feed store. Jos. Glenn has also built a three-storey brick, 25x50, the ground floor of which is to be occupied by J. A. McCaul's new furniture store. Mr. McCaul was formerly in Regina. In the lumber business are Mr. Sherwood, formerly farm superintendent of the Bell Farm, and J. Conn, who is also a hardware merchant, and a business man of long standing. J. R. Brook, general merchant, has enlarged his premises this year and has also a branch at Sintaluta. Mr. Osment has leased his store to Reid & Co., formerly of Neepawa, Man., and proposes retiring from business. The firm of Crawford & Co. has recently suffered the loss of Mr. Crawford, Sr., who died some weeks ago. The business is likely to be continued by the sons. A new brick building has been erected this year

next the store for the accommodation of the postoffice. The Union Bank has recently opened a branch in charge of Thos. A. Christie, formerly manager for Skillitor & Co., private bankers. H. H. Fleury will continue the harness business of Densmore & Fleury, his partner, J. Densmore having lost his life through a deplorable accident some time ago. W. R. Boyd, proprietor of the old hotel, has made considerable improvements in his building, which is over-taxed with the big business doing this season. Indian Head has made marked progress this year and is fast building up, the very solid and extensive character of the buildings being a standing advertisement of the strength of No. 1 Hard as a money-making power.

FORT QU'APPELLE.

This sprightly little town is an example of a frontier town, with the disadvantage of being deprived of railway connection. The circumstance however, has not served to check the building of a most satisfactory trade, the several merchants and business men located here, all being in a very satisfactory way as regards prosperous business. Whether it is by virtue of its location or by reason of the enterprise of its citizens, Fort Qu'Appelle is a centre of trade second to none in the west. The business men are a pleasant, intelligent coterie, and the best feature of free, open-handed western life are in evidence. Fort Qu'Appelle is prettily situated in the wide valley of the Qu'Appelle river, between the two large lake expansions of the stream. The high banks of the valley enclose it on north and south. It is twenty miles distant from either Indian Head or Qu'Appelle Station, and is the centre of a rich wheat district, well settled by successful and wealthy farmers. In no part of the west have they had better luck wheat raising, and this year the crop yield is as good as anywhere. North from the Fort is the large ranching district extending to the Touchwood Hills, and producing many head of cattle yearly, another source of wealth to the settlers who are engaged in ranching. The business at the Fort is done by three general stores, a hardware store and harness shop. There is also D. H. Macdonald & Co.'s private bank, a butcher shop, an excellent hotel, a livery stable, and lastly but not least, Joyner & Elkington's roller flour mill. This mill does a large flour trade, having large sales to the ranching country north as well as shipping large quantities by rail from the Qu'Appelle station, and Indian Head. The mill is 75-barrels capacity, and is run night and day. The flour turned out is excellent and as furnishing a local

market for considerable wheat, it is an important industry.

The H. B. Co. have this year built handsome and commodious new quarters to replace the buildings of the old post which have long been almost untenable. The new premises are in a favorable location on a corner opposite Iredale's general store. The building is 50x60, built of stone with brick front. The main building is two story, the upper to be used as a showroom for certain lines. Up here also Chief Factor Macdonald is to have a private office. The front is two handsome plate glass windows. The basement is full size of the building, and is finished in cement. A hot-air furnace heats the building. Altogether, it is an extra good building, well adapted for the business, and reflecting, by the character of the work, great credit on the workmen, as also on Mr. Macdonald, who spent much time studying its requirements.

The Fort Qu'Appelle Indian Industrial school felt factory is situated with the rest of the buildings, four miles away, at the Indian mission. This industry is one peculiarly adapted to this country, both because of the great demand for felt shoes, etc., and the supply of raw material; wool is plentiful. This factory was started a year ago by Mr. Boz, under engagement with the Ottawa government. Mr. Boz is a practical man, born in Germany, where they know all about making felt, and where he learned to make it. Some 400 sheep are kept by the school and wool from outside points is received. As soon as the wool is treated, felt is quickly made, Mr. Boz having had some made in twenty-four hours. All the labor is done by the Indian boys. Shoes of all kinds are manufactured on the premises and the product is becoming deservedly popular wherever it has been placed on the market. It is the intention to steadily increase the output as demand increases. This is one of the many branches of manufacturing industry that can be profitably carried on in the west, as the raw material is abundant and cheap and the market is found at home.

The Industrial school is a large institution with solid brick buildings for accommodation of the pupils, and for workshops in which the several trades are taught. Rev. J. Huggonard is the principal, and practically the founder, the government having, of course, provided the buildings.

QU'APPELLE STATION

Like its neighboring towns, Qu'Appelle Station is feeling the practical benefits of good crops and good prices in conjunction. Business is good, every one is satisfied and busy, and prosperity is the word. A few changes are to be noted in business