

nearly free of boulders and averaging between four and twelve feet in depth; quite deep enough for cultivation, therefore. There are many fine areas of land, easy to drain, with excellent deep agricultural soil. A great stretch of level country extends northward, sloping toward the sea at the rate of about two feet in a mile. There are evidences of promising mineral country and an unlimited supply of spruce, poplar, Jack pine, tamarack and pulpwood.

Climate and soil conditions are the two basic factors which determine farming value. As far north as Split Lake the flora is almost identical with that of similar sites in the Riding Mountains, 400 miles to the southwest. A low absolute elevation of only 500 to 700 feet and the long days of sunlight help the vegetation of this northern clay belt. The extent of the water areas also has a tendency to prevent late spring and early fall frosts. At Cross Lake it is a matter of record that no damaging frosts occur between June 8th and September 11th, an interval of ninety-three days. Sixty-day oats or barley in Ontario will mature in this region in forty-five or fifty days and this is a general rule which applies also to fruits, roots and vegetables. It would seem, therefore, that there will be no difficulty from a climatic standpoint in growing all the hardier products of the temperate zone.

The size and quality of wild fruits is first-class. Luscious raspberries, gooseberries, black and red currants, blueberries, saskatoons and late strawberries, are ripe the last week of July. The bushes are loaded down with fruit which is as large and juicy as many tame varieties in Ontario.

Vegetables grow to perfection anywhere between Cross Lake and Nelson House. One Government survey party ate potatoes weighing a pound and a half each, dug on the last day of August,

The average temperature of the growing season is about sixty degrees Fahrenheit.

In regard to soil conditions, drainage is the great necessity everywhere. The heavy stiff boulder clay must be opened up to the action of the air. The use of a sub-soil plow will probably obviate the necessity for under-drainage over many large areas. The soil is said to be exactly the same as that of New Ontario, which yields large returns under right treatment.

As already stated, only draining is needed to convert many large tracts into fine farms. Less than 100 miles north of Le Pas and within twenty miles of the Hudson Bay railway there is a tract of land, estimated to be 6,400,000 acre in extent, fit for agriculture; that would be enough to give 20,000 farmers 320 acres each.

It is a well known fact that the farther north wheat can be grown the higher is its quality for milling purposes. At the scattered Hudson Bay Company posts in New Manitoba the factors and others living in the little settlements have cultivated plots in the

among the world's finest in size, succulence and flavor. Owing to the length of the days in the summer, the growth is very rapid. At some of the Hudson Bay Company posts, as far north as 56 degrees, wheat has been successfully grown and ripened without a touch of frost, and in some cases

"We have power enough up there, if utilized, to turn every wheel in this province from the farmers' grind-stones to the street car systems and manufacturing plants of our great cities. I will go a step farther and say that we can have our homes heated by electricity, carried to us from the



An Industrial Backwater on one of New Manitoba's big rivers. Note the Saw-mill and its big raft of "feed."

this has been done seven years in succession. It would seem, therefore, that New Manitoba is not too far north for wheat.

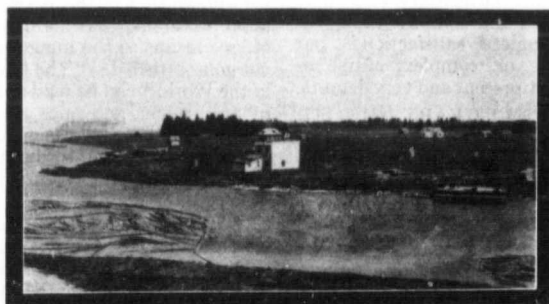
Proper drainage is what is chiefly lacking, as the country now stands in its primitive state,

cataracts of the Nelson River. This power means a great deal to us. With our lumbering, mining and pulpwood possibilities and six million available horse-power we can be the greatest manufacturing province of the Dominion of Canada. With our products of mine and forest and field and factory, hundreds of miles nearer to the British market than those of any other province (the Maritime Provinces alone excepted) all we need to pull to the front and stay there is a continuance of the energy displayed by our public and our public men. Our own natural resources will do the rest."

The versatility of Manitoba's resources is indeed amazing. The outside world has heard of her vast area of rich, black soil that stretches out of sight against the prairie skyline and produces the justly famous wheat, "Manitoba No. 1 Hard." This wheat has given Manitoba an international reputation and furnished the world with a market standard; but it does not by any means represent the province's full bid for notice. You cannot tie Manitoba's future greatness inside a grain-sack. There are the minerals to be reckoned with for one thing.

Exactly. Minerals in paying quantities exist on both sides of the Hudson Bay railway and in close proximity to it. A rush for precious metals, similar to that which took place in the Porcupine district of Northern Ontario is quite a possibility when New Manitoba is opened up. Ore samples have already been brought in from within 180 miles of Le Pas, assaying very close to \$11 per ton of copper and gold and \$10 per ton of nickel. Gold proving out \$5 to \$6 per ton has

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Another big serpentine raft of quality timber. Note the landing wharf and fine levee area of the country.

neighborhood for the sake of practical returns. From the results thus recorded and the success attained even by the Indians here and there, a portion of New Manitoba must be credited with

to open up vast tracts of suitable agricultural land. With an abundance of wood, excellent water and rich wild hay and pasturage, live stock raising will surely prove a tremendous success. That mixed farming will prove a profitable undertaking when marketing facilities are complete would therefore appear to be a foregone conclusion.

An outstanding feature of New Manitoba's possibilities is water power. The report of the Conservation Commission at Ottawa estimates the available horse-power of Canada's rivers at 16,640,000 and one-third of this total (over 5,500,000) is credited to New Manitoba. The value of this north country's rivers to the Province of Manitoba is almost beyond computation at this time. Speaking in this connection on the floor of the local House Dr. Orok, M.P.P., for Le Pas may be quoted as follows:



Riverton, Man., presents a typical North Country scene, both in nature of its activities and appearance of surrounding country.

and when they left on September 10th, the corn and tomatoes were still untouched by frost.

rich soil properties that lend themselves to practical farming while the vegetables grown are

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