

Hassett, and are now confining themselves almost exclusively to the cattle business. S. L. Taylor, druggist, has purchased the Fairbairn block, which he now occupies, S. Fairbairn using the rear portion for his workshop and the upstairs for his furniture show room. Pickering & Co., private bankers, have built a block, which they are now occupying. Mills & McCarthy have moved a few doors further south, and have added a stock of groceries to their other lines. Paterson, druggist, has sold out to McDonald & Co.

Newdale has been making good progress since our last visit. T. L. Fanning and A. E. Walkey have started business, the former a hardware and the latter a general store. There have been a number of houses put up in town and in the surrounding country. There are now at this place three

the Hudson's Bay Co., general merchants and C. H. Greenshaw, hardware, besides a number of smaller ones such as D. C. Fleming and McDonald & Co's butcher shops, Geo. Raymer's tin shop, harness shops, drug store, etc. The Hamilton block is about the only business building erected this year, but the farmers in the neighborhood have done a lot of building.

Kelce and Solsgrith are both small places, although the yearly business turnover of the latter place especially is quite large.

Birtle, which is situated in the valley of the Bird Tail Creek, is one of the prettiest towns in Manitoba. It is rather unfortunate from a business standpoint that it is not closer to the railway station. There have been a few changes here this year the most important being the erection of a large block by T. F. Paterson, part

point, and that the adjacent country is one well suited for mixed farming is shown by the prosperous condition of the farmers. Instances may be given of a number who took up homesteads 15 or 18 years ago with scarcely any capital, who are now worth from \$10,000 to \$15,000. There have been a couple of new stores started this year. Leonard & McDoragh have opened out with a stock of hardware, and Geo. Bryant has started a grocery and bake-shop. J. McDonagh and Dr. Rodgers have moved into a new block which they have erected.

Returning to the main line, the next station west of Binscarth is Millwood, at which point there is a flour mill, the last one on this line of railway.

Langenburg is the first station in Assinibola. There are two gen-



SHOAL LAKE, NORTHWESTERN MANITOBA.

eral stores, a hardware, harness shop, lumber yard, implement warehouses, etc.

Strathclair has seen a number of improvements this year. There have been about seven dwellings and an hotel erected. A drug store has been started as well as a general store owned by A. McIntyre. There are now a number of very good stores at this point.

Shoal Lake has become quite a summer resort during the last few years. It is situated near Shoal Lake from which it gets its name. This is a pretty sheet of water affording good fishing, boating and bathing and numerous caraping parties spend their summer vacation here. As might be expected there are a number of good stores at Shoal Lake, the principal ones being those of G. Manson, R. Scott,

of which will be occupied by Rutan & Fitzpatrick, who opened out recently with a stock of general merchandise. John Walley has moved into a new store this year. We show a cut in this issue of H. A. Manwaring's general store building, the walls of which are of stone picked off the fields nearby. The Arrow Milling Co's flour mill is located at this point.

Foxwarren and Binscarth are small towns as yet, but are in a good section of country. From Binscarth a branch line has been built to Russell, a distance of 11 miles. This town is a center for its connection with pure bred stock raising in Manitoba, having been the station for the Binscarth Stock Farm which only ceased operations a few years ago.

Russell is a point of considerable importance from a business stand-

eral stores at this point, kept by P. Ulrich and R. Wallace, the latter having commenced business last fall.

Churchbridge has two general stores and two implement warehouses, which are doing a good business.

Saltcoats, the next town, has three general stores, two hardware, two butcher shops, bakery, drug store, etc., as well as a government creamery. J. Kennedy, the proprietor of the Queen's Hotel, is building a large addition to his premises. He expects to have this finished in a few weeks, when he will have one of the best hotels on the line. The people of this district are anxious to get a flour mill and are prepared to offer good inducements to an experienced miller to locate there. There are several large settlements in the vicin-