

## RAT PORTAGE.

Navigation is now open on the Lake of the Woods.

The market gardeners of this place are busy planting and sowing.

Coney Island, opposite the town is being surveyed into building lots.

Mrs. Allen is starting a grocery and confectionery business at Keewatin.

Another bridge is to be built across the railway track, this time on Main street.

J. Winton, a Winnipeg painter, has located here to engage in his business.

Wm. Brydon has opened out his stock of drugs on Main street, near the registry office.

E. M. Rideout has built an office on Main street in which he will carry on a real estate and mining exchange.

The approaches to the bridge built last fall across the railroad track on Matheson street have been made passable for teams.

Fred A. Berry has opened a real estate and mining agency office on Matheson street. He is agent for Hooper & Co., steamboat owners.

Business continues somewhat quiet, but the opening of navigation on the lake and the commencement of work in saw-mills almost immediately will make it more lively.

James McCabe has leased E. J. Weidman's photograph gallery, and will continue the business on his own account. The lessor retains a half in the landscape view department.

E. M. Rideout, having considerable real estate on the east side of the muskeg, on the H. B. Co.'s survey, has had Second street cleared across the muskeg at his own expense. Where is the Mayor and Council?

The C. P. R. Co. and the Winnipeg Lumber Co., each having a part of the muskeg on the east side of Matheson street, have cleared it, and the drains put through it will very soon dry it so that it will be a muskeg no longer.

Ward & Mathews, boat builders, late of Winnipeg, leased a house near the lake shore a short time since, and have built an addition to it to give a building large enough for a workshop, and are actively engaged in their business. They have already built two handsome skiffs, and have a large number of orders ahead.

## CLEARWATER.

Coulthart's grist mill has been stopped for the want of flour sacks.

Seeding is more extensive in this locality this year than any previous season.

The new bridge recently erected over the river has collapsed, and fording is again the result.

Thompson Bros. have added the sale of agricultural implements to their business of blacksmithing.

Robertson & Smith, general storekeepers, of Crystal City, have opened a branch store in the same line here.

## BRANDON.

Building is going on steadily and the prospects of a building boom are good.

The insurance men of this city have formed a Board of Underwriters, with J. C. Kerr, chairman, and E. Fitz Bucke, secretary.

The city council have granted Messrs. Cameron & Larkin a bonus of \$5,000 for the purpose of building a paper mill. Two blocks have been granted on section 22 for the purpose.

The Langhan Hotel, Mr. Thompson proprietor, opened last week, in the building formerly occupied by the club. It is the manager's intention to conduct a first-class hotel.

The new Roman Catholic Convent is being pushed forward rapidly. The best teachers are being procured; and on account of the beautiful situation it is sure to become a favorite institution.

Business during the past week has been very good. Towards the end of the week the English immigrants arrived in greater numbers than heretofore and are bringing considerable money with them.

The cattle trade has been somewhat dull this week, on account of the market being overstocked. Prices of oxen have fallen. Milch cows, however, keep up in price, there being a big demand.

## MANITOBA CITY.

Grain buying has ceased for the present, owing to the farmers being fully occupied in seeding.

Three general stores, one blacksmith shop, one livery and one hotel are already located here.

A. J. Fennel, stage proprietor between this and Pilot Mound, runs from the latter place to Crystal City Tuesdays and Fridays, returning the following days to Manitoba City.

A new bridge has recently been erected over the river Pembina, above the old Pembina crossing. This shortens the distance considerably between this place and Pilot Mound.

Mr. Stewart intends shortly to build another hotel overlooking the lake, size 80x60 feet. Sauls & McKay will be the lessees. The site for the railway station has not yet been decided upon. This makes the business men very unsettled and caused them to erect but temporary premises until the location is decided upon.

Mr. Crawford, with numerous assistants, is surveying a suitable route for the continuation of the line of railway from here to the crossing of the river Pembina. Mr. Barclay, the chief engineer, came out with the party, but only remained with them a few days. The route expected to be taken is through the windings of the Mary-Jane Creek, which empties into the Pembina.

## PILOT MOUND.

There is considerable rivalry between this town and Crystal City, although a good distance apart,

W. A. Donald is erecting a new private

dwelling for himself, corner of Main street and Prairie Avenue.

A stage now runs twice a week—Tuesdays and Fridays—between this place and Crystal City, 8 miles distant.

The grist mill has stopped running for want of grain. Seeding operations delay delivery of grain for the present.

Pilot Mound business men and the farmers thereabouts sadly feel the want of a railway. The intended extension of the C. P. R. South-western from Mountain City is eagerly looked for.

The Tremont House had a formal opening on Thursday night last. A free supper and ball was given to a large number of residents and friends from a distance. G. T. Lundy, propr. of the Queen's Hotel, Nelson, is the landlord.

Wm. Carson, formerly brick maker at St. John, N. B., made bricks here last season, and owing to the result being a success he has decided to manufacture this season also. Mr. Carson has recently taken the grist mill.

John M. Huckins has erected two double and one single store opposite the Tremont House, on Prairie avenue. The upper story is used as a hall and for religious services. One of the stores has already been let for a furniture store.

## CRYSTAL CITY.

Dr. Riddell & Co. have opened a drug and stationery store on Ida street.

Flannagan Bros. import their fauning mills from Ontario, which are made up here.

Wm. Burns is negotiating the sale of his grist mill with some party in Winnipeg.

Thomas James Armstrong, livery owner, is giving up business, and intends taking up land in Dakota.

W. F. Hill has given up publishing the Rock Lake Herald and gone further west. A. W. Brouse, of Emerson, owner of the plant, is expected to be the next publisher.

The merchants of this town, Pilot Mound and Clearwater announced on March 20 that they would give no more credit. The arrangement, however, did not last long. The usual credit is being given. It is not known which town first burst the agreement.

## STEPHEN.

Besch & Irwin, Emerson, have a grain warehouse.

Wardroper & Co., Emerson, opened a lumber yard recently.

Mikel & Thomas, general storekeepers, have commenced business.

Tobias & Ketcham, of Emerson, lately opened a general store.

Wesbrook & Fairchild have opened a branch. J. B. Stepieler is the resident agent.

Johns & Shipman, late of Nelson, general storekeepers, have opened out a like business here.

Robert Johnson, of Nelson, has opened the Brunswick hotel. This is the only hotel accommodation.