

# DOING THE MAIN LINE

Notes of a Trip Westward from Winnipeg, by a  
Commercial Representative.

We left off last week at Elkhorn, coming westward, from which place we cross the boundary from Manitoba into Assinibolia territory. Fleming is the first station in Assinibolia and is a good grain market. It has three general stores owned by Dimmick Bros., T. & M. Elliott and L. Guibraith, a harness and shoe store of G. J. Jupp, R. Chappell's hardware, two butchers, W. J. Feaver and E. McConnell, and two implement warehouses. The hotel here has recently been refurnished and improved in other ways, making it a first-class commercial house. A couple of business changes have recently taken place. Dimmick Bros. have dissolved partnership, W. J. Dimmick continuing, and has moved the stock to a new stand, the old premises being occupied by E. B. Albart with a stock of general merchandise.

Moosomin has a population of between 1,000 and 1,200. It is a bright and attractive looking town, a large number of its business buildings as well as a number of dwellings being of brick, some of them being large and handsome structures. It is well supplied with all kinds of business establishments, there being four general stores, two hardware, two bakeries, two drug stores, two jewellers, two butcher shops, three lumber yards, two furniture stores, planing mill, foundry and machine shop, three implement warehouses, etc. R. D. McNaughton's general store is of such magnitude that it might almost be counted as several businesses. The business changes of the past year have been small. H. E. Holden has bought stock and business of D. A. Hall, jeweller. T. Umphrey has re-opened in harness, and G. P. Smith, the baker, has had a brick block erected for him and is now occupying it.

The country lying to the north of the track is well settled and produces large crops of grain, but to the south, in what is known as the Moose Mountain district, there is still a great deal of land lying idle and the settlers who are located in that district devote their attention principally to the raising of stock. There are five elevators at Moosomin which handled about 300,000 bushels of grain last year and the stock shipments amounted to about 5,000 head.

Wapella has experienced a growth this last year resembling somewhat the nature of a boom, as there have been some thirty five buildings erected, two or three of which deserve special notice. A. Roberts has built a brick-veneer block, which is occupied by C. E. Magrath, one of the leading general merchants. The Mundell hotel, a large and handsome brick building, has recently been completed. It is fixed up with all modern improvements, making it one of the best on the line. A large skating and curling rink, 75x175, also figures among last year's new buildings. J. Franks has purchased A. Knowles' general store business. His store building, of which we show a cut, is one of the best in town. It is of

stone faced with brick and is a handsome and substantial looking structure. Its size enables him to display his stock to good advantage. The Strome & Whyte Co., of Brandon, have established a branch here. G. E. Nugent has sold his furniture business to Geo. Wrightson, his lumber business calling for more attention than he was able to give it. R. A. Perse & Co., started a private bank last year, which is proving a valuable addition to the business community. S. C. Wales has opened a butcher shop. There is one hardware store here, owned by Thompson & Sutherland. Tudge Bros. have the pioneer butcher shop and livery stable. There are three elevators and a mill, the latter owned by J. Sanders, of Whitewood, R. P. Park being the local manager. The water supply at this station is both good and abundant, which, unfortunately, is not the case in all parts of this country. J. A. Cornett has purchased the harness department of Thompson & Sutherland.

At Whitewood there are four general stores, the Hudson's Bay Co., J. J. Knowler & Co., J. A. Hawkes and B. Limoges, also a good hardware, furniture store, butcher shop, two drug and two harness stores, one men's furnishings, a fruit and confectionery store,

making steady progress and its prospects for the future are good as the farmers in the surrounding district are now getting into good shape. A large number of Hungarians, Swedes, Finlanders, etc., are settled to the north and are reported as doing very well, the majority of them having a considerable number of cattle and hogs as well as raising large crops of grain.

Broadview, which is a divisional point of the Canadian Pacific railway, has two large general stores owned by Thorburn & Sons, and A. R. Colquhoun & Son, and a butcher shop kept by T. Miskiman. Immediately to the north is a large Indian reserve. A number of these Indians farm on quite an extensive scale, but on the whole the merchants here receive very little business from them. To the south there is a very good tract of land. Immigration has been slow in coming to this section heretofore, but a large increase in the number of settlers is looked for this year. It is known that at least fifty families will locate here this spring.

The district immediately surrounding Gravelly is open prairie, but a few miles to the north and south, bluffs of trees, principally poplar, are frequently met with, which besides affording good fuel, serve as a protection from the winds and storms of winter. The Qu'Appelle valley, which is noted for the beauty of its scenery, lies about eighteen miles north of this station. Here we find the pretty little village of Hyde, which is becoming a favorite holiday resort. North of this valley there is a large settlement of Germans. Many of these people were in poor circumstances when they came to this



Store of J. Franks, General Merchant, Wapella Assa.

two lumber yards, implement warehouses, etc. Morrison & Co. have a private bank, and J. Sanders a flour mill. Last March a fire swept nearly a whole block out of existence. The buildings burned have been replaced and one or two additional stores built. R Street, butcher and lumber merchant, built new premises. Adjoining this is A. B. Gillis' brick block, containing Bird & Co.'s drug store and law office. Next to this is the brick block erected by John Street, which is occupied by J. G. Cumling, fruits and confectionery, and E. C. Warner, clothier, and on the next lot D. M. Boyd, the barber, has built new quarters for himself. In addition to this the size of the town has been increased by the erection of several dwellings. This point has been

country, and the fact that the most of them are now in a prosperous condition speaks well both for the country and the people. This district is given over principally to mixed farming, although to the west and south grain raising still receives the most attention. For its size, Grenfell can hold its own with any town in this country as regards buildings. It has three large business blocks, an hotel, masonic temple, school house and several dwellings, all of stone, and all very handsome and substantial structures. We show cuts of Chisholm & Copeland's and J. W. Jones & Co.'s general stores, and of the Masonic temple, the other stone business block being the property of C. R. Tryon & Co., the local bankers. Chisholm & Copeland's build-