

The Hard Wheat Belt.

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Dauphin, Gilbert Plains and Swan River District.

(Continued from Page 1)

Persons that have applied for homesteads, who are still in England, 16, and in Bohemia, 14.

Number of acres of land broken	170
Horses now in the district	184
Cattle	247
Sheep	26
Mules	2
Donkeys	1

Ploughing was carried on this Fall until November 4th.

The Government tents were erected on May 13th, 1898. They were greatly used and appreciated, and were occupied every day without a break until November 13th, 1898.

I have learned from T. A. Burrows, Esq., the Railway Land Commissioner, that 250 quarter sections of Railway Lands have been applied for to purchase from May 1st to December 1st, 1898.

The Railway Company have laid the track to within about 20 miles from here, and will run a weekly train (every Monday), from Portage la Prairie to the end of the track.

The distance from here (Dauphin) is....	92 miles
To Portage la Prairie	212 miles
To Winnipeg	268 miles

There is very much need of a bridge being built across the Swan and Rolling rivers by next spring.

The three warmest days during the past summer were:
July 12, the thermometer registered 97° in the shade
Aug. 18, " " 85° "
Sept. 27, " " 90° "

The following was the temperature from November 21st to December 20th, 1898.

NOV.	8 A.M.	1 P.M.
21.....	15° below zero.	10° above zero.
22.....	10° " "	14° " "
23.....	15° " "	32° " "
24.....	3° above zero.	15° " "
25.....	13° below zero.	6° " "
26.....	8° above zero.	25° " "
27.....	10° " "	34° " "
28.....	12° " "	20° " "
29.....	2° " "	20° " "
30.....	4° " "	18° " "
DEC. 1.....	7° below zero.	37° " "
2.....	2° " "	22° " "
3.....	1° above zero.	34° " "
4.....	6° " "	30° " "
5.....	13° " "	20° " "
6.....	10° " "	18° " "
7.....	2° " "	15° " "
8.....	2° below zero.	6° " "
9.....	15° above zero.	25° " "
10.....	20° " "	33° " "
11.....	11° " "	22° " "
12.....	14° below zero.	8° " "
13.....	10° " "	4° " "
14.....	10° " "	16° " "
15.....	12° above zero.	24° " "
16.....	10° " "	32° " "
17.....	27° " "	34° " "
18.....	4° " "	26° " "
19.....	14° " "	40° " "
20.....	27° " "	37° " "

The wheat, oats and barley, although sown late, ripened and did well. The vegetables and roots grew splendidly. Mr. C. Henderson planted potatoes on June 24th, and they ripened; they are using them this winter.

The Methodists, Presbyterian and Church of England, hold religious services in the district.

The first frost this fall was on Sept. 8, very light
The second frost " " 9, 6 degrees
The third " " 19, 2 degrees

We had a heavy snow storm on October 2nd. Snow fell to eight inches on the level, but disappeared in a few days, then we had fine weather afterwards.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(signed) H. HARLEY,
Sub. Land Agent.
Swan River, Man.

Mr. Harley is located on the Favell river, section 11, township 36, range 26, about seven miles east of the intended railway crossing of the Rolling river. He will be in charge of this office during 1899. Settlers can obtain from him all needed information as to vacant homesteads, and after selection make entry for the same.

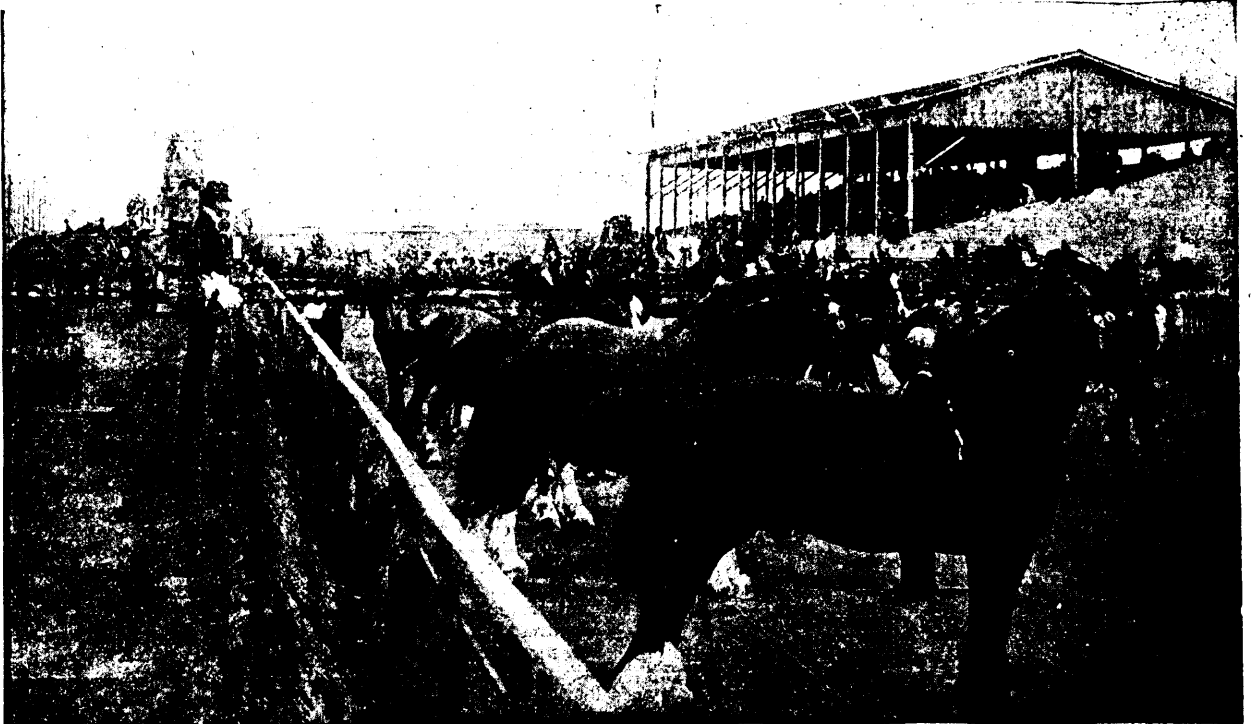
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A quantity of hay has been put up during the past summer by settlers, but Mr. Harley anticipates a scarcity in the spring. Grain and potatoes for seed and feed, will have to be taken in by rail. A regular stage line runs from the land office to the end of the track connecting with train service. This piece of road will likely be bad in the spring, but not worse than was experienced in the older parts of the province before the advent of railroads.

The influx of settlers will likely commence this year in March before roads break up. For information about railway lands in Dauphin, Gilbert Plains and Swan River Districts, write to Theo. A. Burrows, M. P. P., Land Commissioner, Dauphin, Man.

Lands in the Vicinity of Winnipeg.

Special attention has been directed, with good effect, to the farming districts in the vicinity of Winnipeg, during the past season, by a neat pamphlet issued by a joint committee representing the city council of Winnipeg, the Winnipeg Board of Trade, and the Winnipeg Retailers' Association. Many purchases have already been made in this district, that for many years has been overlooked. The best land in the province



HORSES AT WESTERN MANITOBA'S BIG FAIR]

can be obtained here and at prices so low, and on such easy terms, as to be a matter of surprise to investors. The following is the announcement made in the pamphlet, copies of which and all other information relative to the district can be obtained by writing to W. F. McCreary, Esq., the Dominion Immigration Commissioner, referred to therein:

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE INSPECTION OF LANDS.

"Arrangements have been made by a committee of the City Council, Board of Trade and Retailers' Association, that a list of lands open for sale in the Winnipeg district, showing location, improvements, (if any), price per acre, terms on which they will be sold, title of property, etc., shall be open for inspection and public information in the office of the Dominion Immigration Commissioner, Winnipeg, in charge of a competent official of the Dominion of Canada. A Government Land Guide also will, when it is possible, conduct intending settlers to inspect such properties as they may desire to visit in the Winnipeg district. Inquiries made by mail will be answered to the best of the ability of the officials, though such answers can never be so satisfactory as the information afforded in a personal interview."

Quoting from this pamphlet, on the "Markets"

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of Winnipeg, and the "Lands in the district," it says:

MARKETS.

"One of the first advantages an intending settler in a new country should carefully look after is the proximity to a ready market for his produce, and in this respect the district around Winnipeg is the most favored in the western part of Canada. To have a city of 45,000 population within one, two or three hours' drive of home, is, of itself, an advantage, that in western Canada can only, at the present time, be found in the Winnipeg districts. Winnipeg being the commercial metropolis of Canada west of Lake Superior, and the railroad centre as well, the farmer, in addition to receiving a large local market here gets the lowest freight rates prevailing in the prairie country to the Eastern Canadian and European centres of consumption, which in a word, means the highest cash price for all that his farm produces.

But it is not in selling alone that the Winnipeg market offers special advantages. In the city the farmer can purchase his household necessities, his clothing, machinery, implements, lumber, general building materials, and other supplies as economically in most respects as in the older cities of the Dominion, and in no other city of Canada, having the same population, can the purchaser of merchandise find a more varied stock of goods of every class from which to select. In short, for either sale or purchase market, few if any of the cities of 50,000 population, offer such advantages as are to be found in the

Manitoba capital. But in addition to the local market of the city, it should be noted that immediately to the east of Winnipeg district exists the large and ever increasing market of the gold mines of the lakes of the Woods and adjoining regions."

LANDS.

"The lands of the Winnipeg district comprised within a radius of twenty-five miles around the city, are well situated in what is known as the Red River Valley. South of the International line in the United States, the lands in this same valley are considered to be the most fertile in the Western States, improved lands selling there at prices reaching to \$30 and \$40 per acre. Superior quality of uncultivated land may to-day be purchased within twenty-five miles of Winnipeg at from \$5 to \$15 per acre, according to location; and good lands for stock raising purposes at from \$2.50 to \$4.00 per acre. When the Winnipeg district lands are brought under cultivation, they will soon be valued as high or higher than those to the south of the International line already improved. Settlers taking up land here at the present time will reap a rich reward for their foresight within a very few years. That many American farmers in Minnesota and Dakota are quick to perceive this situation is evidenced by the large numbers of them now