

GRANDE PRAIRIE MUST HAVE A DIRECT ROAD

James I. Brooks, Spirit River Settler, Declares Greatest Need is Direct Communication With Edmonton

The prairies of the Peace River country, sparsely settled, and over five hundred miles removed from Edmonton by the present route of travel, comprise the last great North West, which is more and more engaging the attention of the people of North America.

The need of a direct road to the Grande Prairie is convincing, as pointed out by Mr. Brooks. "What we want," he says, "is a good truck road by way of Lac Ste. Anne and Sturgeon Lake, which would be shorter by two hundred miles than the present road."

Mr. Brooks who has over a hundred head of horses at Spirit River Prairie stated that he and others would have brought many head to Edmonton last fall had there been such a road. He

roughly estimated that the distance which might be covered by a direct road from the Grande Prairie post office by the present route was 530 miles divided as follows: Edmonton to Athabasca Lake, 100 miles; from the Landing to the mouth of the Little river 75 miles; from the Little river to Lesser Slave Lake 35 miles; 75 miles on the lake; from the lake to Peace River Crossing 90 miles; from this Crossing to Dunvegan 60 miles; from Dunvegan to Spirit River 15 miles; from Spirit River to Grande Prairie post office 30 miles, a total of 530 miles.

The money spent on the road on the north side of the Athabasca river to his opinion might just as well have been burnt up. He had known of 70 odd horses which had been lost by straggle between Athabasca and Lesser Slave lake. A friend of his, Mr. Cunningham, had lost five hundred dollars at least, who had started for the Grande Prairie, had become discouraged because of the roads and turned back.

Mr. Brooks has done considerable prospecting in the mountains and says there are good paying copper mines. A specimen of ore which he sent to Minneapolis was analyzed and found to be 84 per cent. of copper. Copper and silver mines is struck between the Smoky River and the Pine river coal found every where of a high grade semi-bituminous class.

Mr. Brooks thought the building of a road from Grande Prairie south to the Grand Trunk Pacific railroad quite feasible.

Mr. Brooks stated that a road was badly needed from Spirit River to the Peace Coulee in the block acquired by the Dominion government from the province of British Columbia. Peace Coulee is a block of land about 100 miles long and 10 miles wide, and then completing the road from Grande Prairie to Spirit River, a distance of 60 miles, and then completing the road from Spirit River to Peace Coulee, a distance of 90 miles. A route of 150 miles to reach a point 60 miles distant is a very long haul, and it would be easier to cut through the mountains than to go around them.

The adjacent prairies and timber and coal lands, the minerals waiting to be mined and the immense power to be drawn from the waterfalls make it an ideal location.

The Pine Pass city would unquestionably have an abundant supply of white coal, as there are falls in the Red Deer river, in all the tributaries of the Smoky river and in the three branches of the Pine river.

Mr. Brooks speaks of the white mud plains north of the Peace River, a great range country of unknown extent. It is as yet without a single settler. Ross Healy of Spirit river speaks of going there.

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THEY COME TO CANADA TO GET THE GOOD LAND

This is the Reason—United States Farmers Sell Out and Move Into Canada, According to Iowa Colonizer—Land in States Losing Its Fertility—Will Grow Only Cereals.

Winnipeg, Dec. 29.—That the inflow of United States citizens in general and experienced Iowa farmers in particular to Western Canada, will be greater during 1910 than in any previous year, is the prediction of Wm. Haywood, a former Winnipeg business man, and of late years county attorney at Spirit Lake, Iowa.

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SIX YEARS FOR WARRNER

Defauling Railway Treasurer Sentenced—Will Testify Against Woman.

Cincinnati, Ohio, Dec. 28.—With a hysterical plea today that sentence be pronounced immediately, Chas. L. Warrner, defaulting local treasurer of the Big Four Railway, pleaded guilty to embezzlement and was sentenced to six years hard labor in the state penitentiary.

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LAMPHERE, OF MURDER FARM MYSTERY, DEAD

Principal in Celebrated Guinness Case Dies in the State Prison Without Giving Any Statement That Would Assist in Clearing up the Strange Case—Succumbed to Tuberculosis.

Michigan City, Ind., Dec. 30.—Ray Lamphere, convicted of arson in the celebrated Guinness case, died here in the state prison tonight at 7:15 o'clock of consumption. He had been in nearly all the time since sentenced, but did not seem to fail rapidly until this afternoon.

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SPORTING NEWS

HOCKEY. DEACONS DEFEAT STRATHCONA. The Deacons retaliated on Strathcona New Year's afternoon for the third time after a fast game by a score of 6 to 4.

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January Inventory Sale AT THE STORE OF VALUES FROM NOW till the 15th, this will be a busy store. We offer liberal discounts on seasonable goods. Our efforts are to reduce stock. This must be done before Inventory. A money saving proposition which the shrewd buyer will take advantage of. Early shoppers will have larger choice. January Inventory Sale, January 3rd to 15th. J. H. MORRIS & Co. Department Store 270-76 JASPER AVENUE EAST

TRACK AND FIELD. WON GOLD SEAL RACE. Vancouver, B.C., Jan. 2.—The Vancouver Athletic Club, won the third annual Gold Seal race, over an eleven mile course from a big field of competitors. He had a minute and a half led over Emerson Smith, of Vancouver, second. Harry Jackson, of Seattle, was third. The course was through the heart of the city and kept the runner busy dodging the traffic.

TYPHOID EPIDEMIC IN MONTREAL. Montreal, Dec. 29.—Thirty-one new cases of typhoid are reported this morning. Physicians are appealing to the citizens not to use unboiled water for any purpose. The total number is 2,290.