

DISTRICT NEWS.

BEAVER HILLS.

There have been some hot days here during the past month. The Riverside Methodist congregation held a picnic at Elk Park, enjoying the day with a drizzling shower at night. Despite daily showers, picnics to the park seem to be in fashion. The brick foundation is being laid under the Mansfield school this week. Mr. Thomas' steam plow outfit is breaking on the old rail bridgehead. Mrs. Simmons is seriously ill. Berry-pickers are working their way to the hills these days. There have been several stock babies in this locality during the past week. Mrs. Henning, of Edmonton, is visiting her brothers, Robert and Fred Weder.

WETASKIWIN.

Word was received in the city this week that the Brown Construction Co. of Winnipeg, were the successful tenderers for the construction work on the new post office building here. It is expected that work will be commenced very shortly. Mrs. Richardson left on Saturday last for Toronto and other points in Ontario, where she will spend a couple of months with friends. Mr. and Mrs. Appleton and daughter, Mrs. Russell, arrived in the city on Saturday last to spend a few days with the former's sister, Mrs. Fred Burrar. Mrs. J. Rix went to Ponoka on Tuesday, where she will spend a week or so at the home of her son, Ed. Mrs. Russell, who has been renewing friends in the vicinity for some time, left on Wednesday on her return trip to her home at the coast. Mrs. N. C. Lege, of Toronto, who has been spending some time at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. Kealar, left on Wednesday for her home. She was accompanied by Miss Lege. Both political parties in the city are making preparations for an active campaign, and before many days the heat of the contest will be on. The Liberals are having a meeting of the executive on Tuesday evening for the purpose of selecting the delegates to attend the nominating convention in this city on Wednesday next. Conservatives are holding their preliminary meeting on Thursday night to select their quota of representatives to the convention held in Strathcona on Wednesday.

J. M. Douglas, the member for the Strathcona constituency, was in the city on Tuesday, shaking hands with his many friends, and at the same time making preliminary arrangements for the holding of the convention here on Tuesday next. He feels quite confident that the reciprocity issue will sweep the country for the government at the coming election. As far as he could learn in the east the tariff reduction proposals are generally popular, and he is over-whelmingly in favor of better relations between Canada and the United States. Rev. and Mrs. McGowan, who have been spending a month's vacation with friends at Calgary, returned home on Monday. The latest venture in the newspaper field is the Wetaskiwin Free Press, which will make its first appearance on Wednesday next. A. H. Liverance is the editor, and it is understood one of the policies of the anti-temperance paper is to advocate the anti-temperance cause.

J. J. Stapleton, B.A., former principal of the public schools here, was in the city the fore part of the week, but left on Thursday for Gull Lake, where he will spend a week. In connection with his visit, it is stated that he had accepted a position on the staff at Yorkton, as he has accepted a situation on the staff of the Edmonton Echo. Miss Swoboda, of Strathcona, is in the city this week renewing the acquaintance of her many friends. Chas. D. Enman moved last week into his new residence on Main street, which has just been completed. The angel of death again visited this city on Friday last, and carried away the two-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Gaudin. The remains were laid away in the Wetaskiwin cemetery on Saturday.

R. W. Angus is installing an up-to-date steam heating plant in his hall. He is now having an engine room erected at the rear of the building. Wetaskiwin, Aug. 13th.

STRATHCONA.

One of the most important happenings affecting the development of Strathcona occurred last week when the O'Brien sub-section immediately east of Main street, was released for sale. Mr. Lamb, travelling auditor for J. M. O'Brien, the Cobalt millionaire, who has extensive properties in and around Strathcona, was in the town last week inspecting the books, etc., relative to the estate of Mr. O'Brien in the district, and one result of his visit was the announcement made above. Messrs. Bird and Antroub were appointed sole agents for the property. It is announced that Mr. O'Brien will proceed at once to erect a number of houses on the subdivision which may be rented or purchased on the rent-purchase plan. Acreage has also been opened for sale south of the railroad track on the west side of the town, in five-acre tracts and upwards. It is reported from authentic source that Mr. O'Brien will take active interest in

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the development of the town and its prospective industries. His financial support has been definitely guaranteed. Following an interesting baseball game a dance was held on Friday evening at Chalmers hall. The West Coast Grain Co., Ltd., will reopen their elevator in Strathcona next month. Mr. West Kyle will again be the manager. W. Scott, of Macklin, Sask., was scouring the neighborhood for cattle last week. His efforts resulted in two carloads of fine animals. Young Jimmy Morrow, son of Mr. and Mrs. Morrow, Strathcona, fell on a wagon last week and sustained a bad fracture of the right arm. A meeting of the Riverside school trustees was held on Monday. When it was reported that the district had regained its original position and were now free of debt, it was decided to advertise for a new teacher to take up duties at the re-opening of the school next month. There were exhibited at Bird & Antroub's office this week excellent specimens of red, white and black currants and some fine berries grown on A. Hammond's farm three and a half miles southwest of Strathcona. The fruit was in fine condition, full and ripe, and the current bushes were reported to be overbearing. G. G. Snow succeeds Pete Sanders as manager of the Bowman-Sims Lumber Yard. Herman Colles has commenced building a fine new residence close in on the north-west side of the town. Five acres of ground around the house is to be cleared. D. Caldwell, of the firm of Caldwell & Bulloch, millers, Strathcona, was in Strathcona last week and took the opportunity of his visit to survey the grain fields of the district. He said that he had been in good luck in the West and he found the crops in the Strathcona district as good as he had ever seen grow. As regards wheat, he had never seen the like of it since the Manitoba crops in 1901, when it averaged 40 bushels to the acre. This was his first visit and he had no idea of the magnitude of this part of the country and that there were so splendidly cultivated farms surrounding the town. It was quite a hard job to find a place in the west showing better signs of prosperity and prospects. Later Mr. Caldwell attended a meeting of the United Farmers, which was of a private nature. Curtis O. Morgan, of the Merchants' Bank of Strathcona, will spend the time in the east, visiting Quebec and other places. The choir in connection with St. Paul's Presbyterian church has been reorganized. A visitor at Strathcona last week, from the Woodland district comes the report of a marvelous escape of the 11-year-old child of Mrs. Sarah Little. The little girl fell from the top of a wagon loaded with hay, and the front wheel of the cart rolled over her chest. Apparently the child suffered no injury at all. No bones were broken, and she was conscious and sleeps as if nothing had happened. News reached the town on Monday from Enslin's yard, near the corner of Sonner, who was quite an old timer. She died on the 30th of July and was buried in the German Baptist church cemetery at Strathcona. Her funeral took place from the home of her son. She leaves a family of seven children and a number of grandchildren. Having been in full swing in the district since the intermittent wet days.

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