SPORT

HOCKEY LOCALS.

All the News of the Home Circle Done up in Capsul Form.

This is practice night for the Revillon team at the Thistle rink at 6.30.

The hockey fever has struck Alberta College and it is more than likely the boys will have a club organized next week—at least that is the way they are talking today. Of course the aggregation are too late to get into the City league, but there will be ample opportunity for getting on exhibition matches. The College has some good puck chasers on the roll, among the number being Grady, the intermediates' star goal tender.

The intermediates were out in full force at practice at the Thistle last night, when they stacked up against the seniors for an hour. Manager Duhamel was well pleased with the form the boys displayed, and looks for a win at Strathcona tonight.

At a meeting of the intermediates at the rink after practice last night, E. Clark, the fast left wing of the team, was chosen captain for 1907. No better choice could have been made. Clark has been with the team for the past three seasons and knows the game from A to Z.

There is room for a few more in the bus the intermediates will travel to Strathcona in tonight. Parties wishing to accompany with the boys should leave their names with Manager Duhamel at the 99c store. Bus leaves Thistle rink at 7.

J. Gorman will referee the intermediate contest at Strthcona tonight.

Strathcona seniors will cross sticks with the Lacombe team at the latter place tonight. Norman Elliott will be on at left wing in place of McArthur, who was hurt in the last game, and Humeston may replace Sutherland in front of the nets.

The intermediates yesterday received a challenge from Calgary for a match here, which was promptly accepted and the game will be arranged for next week. Manager Duhamel is also trying to arrange an exhibition game with the Revillon team for next week, to warm up for Calgary.

Secretary C. Banford, of the intermediates, is corresponding with Lacombe, Stettler and Wetaskiwin for games with those towns. The locals would have the initial games played here and would go on tour for half a week to play the return matches.

The intermediates will have the services of "Bud" Kent for all their games outside the City league fixtures when he is with Revillons. He is right at home either as rover or centre and will add considerable strength to the scoring department.

A rumor has been current for some days that the Revillon team contemplated withdrawing from the City league. When seen this morning Manager Morris said there was no truth in the report. The store's team were in the league to stay, and if not at the top at the close of the season, they would be very close up on the leeader.

The team to represent the intermediates at Strathcona tonight has been selected and will line up like this: Goal, H. Grady; point, Haskell; cover, R. Johnston; centre, Kent; rover, C. Banford; left wing, E. Clark (capt.); right wing, G. Banford; spares, Allan and Seaman. The boys are fit as a fiddle and look for a win.

The Journal didn't "speak by the book" exactly yesterday in stating that the Bulletin carrier boys failed to put in an appearance for the game with the Journal carriers on the holiday, and therefore it was necessary to cancel the game. The match was called off by the manager of the Journal aggregation, and by actual count of players at the rink that morning the Bulletin had a trifle the best of it.

BASEBALL SITUATION VERY SATISFACTORY.

Nothing Definite as to Players—Managers in Chicago—League Meets This Month—Club Concert.

A local paper had considerable of a laugh at the expense of the management of the Edmonton baseball club in a recent issue. What tickled the sporting editor was the report that Edmonton was after the services of one pitcher, Killian, who has been drafted by the Boston American league team. The smiles were a trifle premature as Manager White had no communication with Mr. Killian whatever. The man the Edmonton manager was after was a well known slab artist named Killion, who was with the Burlington, Ia., team in 1906, and who is still under reserve by that club, which, by the way, landed the championship in their state league last season. When it comes down to putting up the coin Edmonton has as much cash for salaries for fast players as Burlington, and the landing of their star slab artist is not quite the impossibility some may imagine.

Although the weather is anything but seasonable to enthuse the baseball crowd, Manager White is doing considerable quiet hustling to get a good nine together for 1907. He has now lines out for a dozen players, three of whom are pitchers, while he is assured of the services of the three local twirlers, Viney and Christ and Pitman of Wetaskiwin, who will be given a thorough work-out along with the new talent before the permanent pitching corps is selected. Mr. White's anxiety now is to get only players here who can make good from the start, and thus keep down travelling expenses on prospective candidates for the nine—also to get off to a good start when the season opens.

The first meeting of the league is expected to be held this month at Calgary. The league president, B. Robinson, of that city, is in the east at present, and a definite announcement of the date will not be available until he returns; it will likely be held during bonspiel week in the southern metropolis. Only four clubs will be represented this year, but if there is no let up in the present stream of western prosperity an eight-club circuit looks like a certainty for 1908.

Calgary is the only club on the circuit that has not chosen a manager for the season. Al Fidler is looking after the club's interests at present, but it is said he has a rival for the managership in catcher Ford, who was on the team last season. John Herwick, of Spokane, has been offered the management of the Lethbridge outfit, and if the coal diggers will come up a bit in the salary Herwick will take hold. He is one of the best in the business in minor leagues and it is altogether likely he will be secured. "Lefty" Sporer, who has handled the Winnipeg Maroons the past two seasons, and was formerly with Minneapolis, will look after the Medicine Hat aggregation, while "Deacon" White will handle the Edmonton contingent.

The baseball management are arranging a regular old-time minstrel show. It will be put on in the opera house early in March, and will run at least three nights. Manager White is negotiating with a prominent showman in Eastern Canada to take charge of the affair, and it will take him a few weeks to select and drill the performers, all of whom will be from the city. The proceeds of the show will be used in buying uniforms and an outfit for the team, all of which takes considerable money, and it is to be hoped the affair will draw a bumper house each performance.

ANOTHER 3-CLUB LEAGUE.

Another three-club hockey district came into existence at High River, Alberta, on Monday night, when representatives from Dunbow High School, High River and Okotoks assembled and organized a hockey league to be made up of teams from the above towns. The officers for this season are: President, S. Proctor; vice-president, Rev. Father Nasseux; secretary-treasurer, D. O. Brown, and an executive of four members.

The players of each team must be registered before Jan. 1, 1907, and any team defaulting a game without good excuse, will be expelled from the league.

R. R. Carver offered to donate a cup for annual competition, and Mr. McKee will put up medals, which will also go to the winning seven. The season opened on Jan. 2 with Dunbow at High River, and will close on March 6 with Dunbow at High River.

SNAPS ON SPORT.

If early organization counts for anything the Tecumseh lacrosse team, Toronto, will be well up in the race for the championship of the big eastern lacrosse association. The club had its annual meeting last week, when Chas. Querrie, last year's manager, was reappointed for 1908, and instructed to get busy at once getting together an aggregation just a little faster than any of the other lacrosse towns in the league.

The Winnipeg Bowling league schedule came to a close on Saturday, the Saratoga team finishing on top with a lead of 97 pins over the Olympics. Erricks, of the Saratogas, is the champion individual bowler with an average for 36 games of 183. Hodgins followed him with an average of 178 for 51 games.

There is great rejoicing in hockey circles at the Capital just now over the appearance of Harvey Pulford in uniform at the Ottawa senior team's practices late last week. Pulford was the mainstay of the Ottawa defence the past few years, and his absence from the team this season has been sorely felt. Pulford's absence from the game this season was due to fear of losing his status as an amateur. Ottawas are playing professional hockey this year. He will figure in rowing circles in that city this summer.

The Ottawas will make a brave effort to lift the Stanley cup this year—if keeping a supply of high class players under their command counts for anything. Just now they are carrying two goal keepers, Lesuer and Hague, the regular line up consisting of Moore and Pulford, defence, and Smith brothers, Shore and Westwick on the scoring end; and two spares in Spittal and Williams—besides considerable talent on the second team.

A unique curling bonspiel was held at Saskatoon on the holiday. The "knock out" style of game was the order of the day, and it was late at night when the final game was played. Skip Brower was the winner with Skip Blain runner up. The winners were presented with a napkin ring each, while Mr. Blain and his men each got a tobacco pouch.

The second annual bonspiel of the Saskatoon Curling club opens in that town on Jan. 8th. The prize list embraces seven events, among them being the Grand Challenge and Citizens' trophies, Porte cup and Calgary Brewing Co. cups. Everything at present indicates a highly successful bonspiel.

CUT OUT THE LIFTS

(Fridays' Daily)

The following timely article from the sporting page of the Toronto Star, off a recent date is well worthy of careful purusal by local hockeyists, both players and managers.

The "lifting" game is about as scientific in hockey as the end-to-end throws or kicks in lacrosse or "association football, once so prominent in these latter pastimes in bygone days. Certainly if there is anything scientific or spectacular about the "lift" it isn't apparent to the average patron of the sport and if the game is to remain popular with the sporting public, the wishes of the patrons of the pastime should be catered to. Here's what the Star says:

"Possession of the puck is nine points of the law," remarked a prominent official of the Ottawa hockey club, who is a close student of the winter game the other day.

Since Rat Portage invaded the east in quest of the Stanley Cup, March, 1905, a vast change has taken place in hockey. Prior to that time the game in many respects resembled Rugby football. Lifting was one of its features. The defence men would hoist the puck from one end of the rink to the other, just like an exchange of punts between half-backs. Forwards skated down under the puck the same as the wings and scrimmagers follow up a kick. The style was hardly as spectacular as Rugby for the reason the diminutive puck was lost to the view of the spectators, and often times hit the iron beams and dropped within a few feet of where it was lifted.

Arthur Moore was considered a marvel at hoist the rubber, he would flip it down far and sure. When Ottawa beat the Wanderers in the Montreal Arena on that memorable night of March 11th, 1905, Moore had the whole Wanderer defence backing into the net every time he shot. Once he hit Goaltender Baker on the chest from a lift practically the whole length of the rink. Billy Strachin, of the Wanderers was a useful man at the old style game.

One night in March, 1905, Tom Phillips led the Thistles of Rat Portage on the ice at Dey's rink. It was the first game of the series for the Stanley Cup against the Ottawas. Phillips and his men appeared nervous in the early moments of the game. Then a sudden change came about. When Moore or Pulford lifted the puck to the Thistles' defence safety jack with it and had a shot on the Ottawa net. This style of play started just before half time and netted the challengers a couple of goals. In the second half Thistles had the puck four out of every five minutes of play. The Ottawa defence continued to lift only for fall back and protect their net against a rush by Phillips and Hooper, or McGimsie, or Griffin, or Hellefsult. The result was Ottawa received the worst drubbing of her career.

The second game was the famous salted oat contest a myth which has been given credence in every city in the country outside of Ottawa. The large crowd that turned out to see Rat Portage repeat the dose, was treated to a rare surprise. Hardly had the game started when Pulford gathered the puck from Phillips and sailed down the ice as far as point, where he passed to one of the forwards. This procedure was repeated off and on, Moore occasionally joining in. It was at once seen the Ottawas were playing the game for their own game. The struggle was a fierce one, and went to Ottawa by a close score. The winning game was a repetition of the one preceding it. The "Silver Seven" carried the rubber in and shot. When they secured it near their own defence they skated it back, and only once or twice when in a tight corner did they resort to lifting.

From those games dates the new style of play in the east. Even in the Ottawa city league the defence will carry the puck into its opponents territory or pass it to a forward rather than hoist it. Other clubs in the E. C. A. L. adopted Ottawa's style early last winter, and lifting is now obsolete with the exception of the bush leagues, where it will probably be discarded this winter.

AMATEUR HOCKEY IN SAS. KATCHEWAN.

A meeting of the executive of the Saskatchewan Amateur Hockey Association took place at Whitewood on the evening of Tuesday, the 18th, when the schedules for the eastern and western districts for the present season were prepared. H. D. MacPherson was present from the Regina club. The first game in the western district between Regina and Moose Jaw is fixed for January 3rd.

SCHEDULE OF WESTERN DISTRICT

Regina at Moose Jaw—Jauary 3.
Moose Jaw at Regina—January 10.
Regina at Moose Jaw—January 24.
Moose Jaw at Regina—January 31.
Regina at Moose Jaw—February 7.
Moose Jaw at Regina—February 14.

DUTCH QUITS AT LAST.

Winnipeg Telegram—Dutchy Morrison, the well known Portage la Prairie goal tender, has been moved to the city by the bank and will be here for several weeks. He says that he will not play at all this winter, having at last decided to retire. The Portage club is counting upon him turning out this season.

SPORTS OF ALL SORTS

Abbreviated Paragraphs on the Happenings in Athletic Circles in All Parts

(Saturday's Daily)

Vegreville curling club was organized at a representative meeting in that town on Wednesday night with Dr. McIntyre, M.P., patron; J. B. Holden, M.P.P., hon. president; C. R. Morton, president; Dr. Field, secretary-treasurer, and an executive of four members. The club has thirty members in sight and a good season's sport is anticipated. Skips will be chosen at a later meeting of the executive.

The proprietors of the People's Newspaper, London, England, are presenting for competition among the association football teams of the Dominion a handsome silver challenge shield, carrying with it the championship of Canada. The trophy is a very elaborate one and will be handed over to the Toronto Thistles, who won the Dominion honors at the tournament in that city last year. The 1908 tourney will be at Winnipeg.

The executive of the Hamilton Tigers Rugby football team, who won the Dominion championship last year, are having all kinds of trouble to satisfy the players in the line of giving them a satisfactory souvenir for their remarkable work last season. At first the officials proposed donating each player a signet ring, but the ambitious City pigskin chasers are looking for a diamond ring.—They got a gold watch apiece for landing the Ontario championship in 1905, and they argue a Dominion championship should produce a diamond circlet.

The executive of the intermediate hockey team return their best thanks to the following gentlemen for their hearty support in enabling the club to raise funds to pay for the use of the rink for practices: Edmonton Cigar factory, $10; Hotel Cecil, $1; Jack Morton $2; F. E. Good, $1; J. W. Morris, manager Revillon's, $5; P. E. Leseard, $5; J. M. Dechene, $1; W. E. Morgan, $1; C. F. Hayes, $1; W. M. Coffey, $1; J. H. Morris, $1; The Boston, $5; E. D. Grierson, $1; S. Lorne, $1; Windsor hotel, $1; X. Y. Z, $5; Senate Cigar store, $5; P. E. Leseard, $5.

The Strathcona intermediates will play the return game with Edmonton's second team on Tuesday night at the Thistle rink.

If Andrew Carnegie would only present rinks to our Canadian towns, his fame would be more lasting than it is with the libraries. It might not be a bad idea for some one to suggest this to Andy.—Galt Reporter. The officers of the teams in the City League will heartily endorse the Reporter's sentiments.

At Kingston last night the Limestone City's senior seven made a good showing against the Toronto Argonaut's winning by a margin of 16 to 1. At half-time the score was 9—0.

Strathcona Intermediates would strengthen the team some by moving cover point Laidlaw up to play rover. He looks light for a defence man, but has a great deal of speed and is good on the rush.

The oarsmen are already picking the winner of the Durnan-Towns sculling match for the world's championship, which will be rowed in Australia in March. On paper Durnan looks like the winner, but it is feared he will not be fully up to form in proper shape before the contest, weather conditions being against him. Towns is a native of Australia.

Arrangements are practically completed for the English trip of the Capital Lacrosse Club, of Ottawa, which won the Canadian Lacrosse championship last season. The team will sail on April 5th, and while away will play about thirty games. Fourteen players will be taken on the tour.

Toronto bowlers had a unique trial of skill on the Toronto Bowling club alleys on New Years Day. The fun started at 12 noon and finished at midnight. Eddie Sutherland won the individual prize, knocking over 7,335 pins. Anglin, who finished third, rolled 51 games. The team prize was won by Art and Frank Dissette who ran up a score of 10,514.

The Queen City bowlers have a 15-game competition this week—five games being played each night. This contest is for the purpose of finding out positively who is entitled to the honor of being known as Toronto's best ten-pin bowler.

Baseball authorities claim the records show that unassisted triple plays are about as scarce in the records of America's national game as one-armed twirlers are nowadays. The records compiled since the organization of baseball in 1876 show that only four unassisted triple plays have been worked.

Pitcher Sam Leever of the Pittsburgs, has the reputation of being one of the most consistent box men in the profession. In ten years on the diamond he has won 184 games and lost 94. Of these 150 victories and 75 defeats occured while Leever was with Pittsburgg Nationals, an average of .667.

Latest information is that the pugilist Kid McCoy is quitting the jewelry company, of which he is president and will travel for an automobile company.

At Montreal, on Friday last Tom Jenkins and Alphonse Stems, the Belgian wrestler, came together. There was only one fall, Steuts landing Jenkins on the mat in one hour and thirty-five minutes. Five minutes after the second bout started, Steurs broke a bone in his arm and had to quit.

The announcement is made that James J. Jeffries, the present heavyweight champion of America, and William Squires, of Australia, are matched to battle for the championship honors and a purse of $30,000 early in April. The fight will be pulled off at Phyolite. The winner is to get 60 per cent of the purse, and the loser 40.

Toronto had its first glimpse of professional hockey on Saturday, when the Canadian Soo team of the international league snowed under the Queen City's brand new professional seven by a score of 7—0. The poor showing of the locals is partly due to the fact that this was practically the first time the septette had played together.

Olds and Red Deer teams met for the first time this season at Olds on the holiday, the score being even up 2—2. Extra time was not played as Red Deer had to catch a train.

The eastern district of the Saskatchewan amateur hockey league was reorganized at a well-attended meeting of delegates at Whitewood last week. The clubs comprising this district are Moosomin, Wapella, Qu'Appelle Indian Head, Woolsley, Grenfell and Whitewood. The schedule for the season was drawn up, each team to play home-and-home games, the final contest being on February 27. Moosomin at Wolsley.

Barrie has a professional hockey team this winter, and the sporting public of the town seem to take kindly to the paid aggregation.

LACOMBE SHOULD HAVE FAST AGGREGATION.

Hockey Team Has a Lot of Well-Known Talent—Edmonton to Play There.

(Saturday's Daily)

The announcement that the Edmonton hockey team had been askerd to play a game at Lacombe some day next week, has started the talent speculating as to the locals' chances of pulling out a victory. The Edmonton seven are confident they can win, but their opponents are good to look at in print. This year, we hear, they have the services of Ed. King, who was with Calgary in 1906, and was considered one of the best in the city; also Ed. Sherman who was with Edmonton last year; Chalk, who was classed with the good ones in 1905 is with Lacombe again, and so is Goalkeeper "Gummy" Watson. With the regular team out Edmonton should pull out a victory, but they will have to play hockey all night to do so.

ROSSLAND CARNIVAL

(Saturday's Daily)

The Edmonton hockeyists have been notified that owing to the provincial elections in British Columbia being held in January, the promoters of the Rossland winter carnival have found it necessary to postpone the event until February 12; election day is fixed for February 2. The carnival will go four days and a big attendance is looked for.

So far as Edmonton is concerned, it is not likely the change in date will in any way cause any inconvenience here. After last year's financial exbringing the Rossland hockey team to the city, Edmonton's puck chasers will not be in a hurry to travel westward. The manager of the B. C. team claimed their trip here in 1906 cost them over $500. Edmonton couldn't make the journey and stay at Rossland on much less, and this season, at least, the locals haven't quite that amount to blow in on "extras," nor can the players very well afford to lose the time the trip would necessitate. At present this is the feeling of the majority of the Edmonton crowd, though the club has made no official announcement in the matter.

STRATHCONA LOST IN LACOMBE

Closely Contested Game and the Score Was 4-3

(Saturday's Daily)

In a closely contested game before a very large crowd of spectators by superior playing the Strathcona Senior team went down to defeat at Lacombe last night by a score of 4 to 3. In the first half the score was 3 to 0 in favor of Lacombe, while in the second half the visitors scored three to the home team's one.

The referee was W. Durand of Strathcona. There were some changes on the Scona team Norman Elliot playing at point, Ralit again going to cover and McRae going on the wing.

The Lacombe team are champions of Central Alberta and have such well known players as Sherman with Edmonton two years ago and Clalk and King, formerly with Olds.

EDMONTON INTERMEDIATES

Won Hard Fought Game in Strathcona Last Night

(Saturday's Daily)

Hockey matches are frequently productive of surprises and last night's opening game of the Intermediate series between Edmonton and Strathcona, at Strathcona was one of the occasions in which the unexpected to some extent at least happened. Edmonton came over expecting an easy victory and even the supporters of the Strathcona players did not look for a close game. Everyone thought they would be outclassed especially as the team had only been got together at the last moment and some of the men had little or no practice in their positions of last night.

But the fair number of spectators that lined the boards saw an excellent contest and one that was in doubt from start to finish. It was anyone's game throughout and the score of 8 to 7 in favor of the team from the capital is indicative of the closeness of the play.

There was some fast individual playing Dobson and McLean for Strathcona and Taylor and Banford for Edmonton starring among the forwards. The attempts at combination work were frequent but not as a rule effective. The shooting was poor on both teams but Grady and Sutherland the Edmonton and Strathcona goalkeepers had each some hard ones. The latter especially did some excellent work and his playing was much superior to what he has done on the senior team in the two recent games. He appears more at home with the Intermediates and last night won much praise by his cool work. Laidlaw the Scona cover point though light in weight for the position made a number of excellent rushes.

The game began at 8.30 and in a few minutes Kent of Edmonton scored the first goal. This was shortly followed by one from McLean for Strathcona. For fifteen minutes the puck moved from end to end but shortly before half time Edmonton broke away and scored a second goal.

In the second half the third goal was scored by Edmonton in ten minutes time. Injuries to Dobson who received a cut on the cheek from a stick detained the game for a few minutes but after it was resumed Somers scored for Strathcona.

The home team worked desperately to even the score but their efforts were unsuccessful and the game ended.

Edmonton 8, Strathcona 2.

The teams;

Edmonton.		Strathcona.
Grady	goal	Sutherland
Haskill	point	Duran
Johnson	cover	Laidlaw
"Bud" Kent	rover	F. Kent
Taylor	centre	McLean
C. Banford	r. wing	Somers
E. Clark	l. wing	Dobson

The officials;

Referee; R. E. Gormar

Judge of play; K. Weir.

Goal umpires; Edmonton, C. Allan; Strathcona, Norman Main.

Timers; Strathcona, R. Blain; Edmonton, R. Vining.

SPANNING THE CONTINENT

Grand Trunk Pacific is Greatest Railroad Undertaking of Modern Times

Montreal Herald

The greatest railway project under construction to-day is the Grand Trunk Pacific and National Transcontinental system, the joint enterprise of the G.T.R., and the Government of Canada, undertaken for the purpose of extending the zone of settlement to the fertile lands that lie to the north of the existing chains of transportation and of providing an additional highway between the east and west over which products of western energy and industry may pass to the world's markets and the merchandise that will supply the needs of the new population may be carried.

The scope of this colossal undertaking is not confined to Canada alone, vast, although its expanse of territory unquestionably is, but will, with its steamship affiliations, be an important factor in European commerce and in the trade of the Orient.

There are now 1,500 miles of the new railway under construction. When completed it will consist of some 3,600 miles of main line with upwards of 1,000 miles of branches. When the prairie section of the Grand Trunk Pacific begins operations next year it will not traverse a wilderness, but will run through some of the richest regions in the world of primeval. The farmer is there to-day, standing on the hills watching the gangs of men grading the road that will bring him in supplies and carry away his golden grain.

Those with an eye to the pictorial have already noted some of the picturesque features of the road. Of the completed sections in Qu'Appelle and Assiniboine Valleys a writer who has been over the ground says; "Anyone who travels along the Grand Trunk Pacific roadbed in summer from the point where it commences to descend the billow-like slopes of the verdure-covered Assiniboine valley, thirteen miles along the east bank, crossing the mirky waters and gradually climbing the sandy hills of the legend-famous Qu'Appelle for twelve miles to the point where it reaches the summit, can view twenty-five miles of the most picturesque scenery along any railway in Manitoba.

"Unlike other railroads the Grand Trunk does not wind in and around among the hills and valleys, but simply has a straight roadbed and nothing to hinder full speed at all times. Where a ravine has to be bridged or filled it is bridged or filled. Where a marsh or bog is it is filled with stones, and where a bank bars the passage it is removed. No crooks to go around or hills to climb over along this road. The Doukhabors have completed the eastern seventeen miles of the twenty-five, and they are certainly first class road builders. Their force all summer numbered some nine hundred men, but when harvest started some five hundred returned home to bind and thrash the grain and prepare for the winter. The remainder continued the work and completed the contract about the middle of October.

"West of the Doukhobors are located McCutcheon's camp, Barker & Beattie's camp and McMillans themselves on the level beyond the Qu'Appelle. Returning to the east end of the Doukhobors' contract there are at first small bridges across the ravine with a large cut in the banks, but as the road descends gradually the smaller ravines are filled until here there is a marsh with a balm of flag and black poplar trees surrounding it; here a glimpse of the treacherous Assiniboine, as cut and in the river is winding the links of its long red chain, on down till over on the opposite side of the river can be seen all that remains of the old historic Hudson's Bay post, Fort Ellice. Although crumbled and decayed, a sight of the ancient building causes the warm blood to well up in the veins of patriotic Canadians and one feels a tinge of regret that these old landmarks have passed into history and only remain as a record of the vast western part of our fair Dominion when inhabited by the brave pioneer."

It is confidently declared that when the Grand Trunk Pacific grain cars and elevators are ready the wheat too will be ready—better wheat than even the far-famed product of Manitoba. The Saskatchewan valley through which the Grand Trunk Pacific will run is described by those familiar with the country as the richest region of the west. The soil is not quite so heavy and sticky and can be worked earlier in the spring than most Manitoba soil. The climate is more equable and becomes more so as you go northwest to Edmonton and beyond. Here and there are districts suitable for mixed farming—a most desirable feature in Western settlement.

Beyond Edmonton the local traffic will be of slower growth, but an excellent route has been found through the mountains of British Columbia to the coast. The Yellow Head Pass is declared by competent authorities to be the best in the Rockies, and the company has filed its plans and asked the Government to sanction the laying of the metals there. The valleys which will be traversed as the road goes westward to the Pacific coast are rich in coal and other minerals. These natural resources, together with the vast timber forests, will attract capital. Villages and towns will spring up and many new names will appear on the map of Canada where at present the spaces are blank.

The discoveries of enterprising and energetic prospectors, who have been busy during the past two summers, have come as a welcome revelation of what may be expected in Northern Quebec and Northern Ontario. Few save Indians and fur traders and members of the geological survey had penetrated a region which was believed to be too cold for settlement. Now it has been found that once the Height of Land is crossed at Lake Nipissing and the region is entered where the waters flow northward a warmer climate is found. The waters in the rivers that flow into James Bay are said to be three degrees warmer than those of Lake Superior. The summer day is longer and the heat of the sun is greater. Just north of the Height of Land the national transcontinental will run through a great clay belt containing fifteen millions of land suitable for farming. This land is no farther north geographically than the southern portion of Manitoba. It is expected that the distant day wheat will be grown and cattle raised where the moose and caribou roam in the solitudes primeval.

The recently discovered mineral wealth of the Temiskaming region, and especially the marvellous riches of Cobalt, have awakened anticipations of another kind whose fulfilment may date from the opening of the railway.

As to the inception of this great project the facts are all such comparatively recent history that only a brief reference to them is necessary. The first announcement came from Mr. Charles M. Hays, the general manager of the Grand Trunk, of a line which the company proposed to build from North Bay to the British Columbia coast. Then came the negotiations with the Government, and in due course the introduction of the scheme to Parliament, the signing of the contract in July of that year between the Government and the Grand Trunk Pacific Company, in the summer of 1903, and the appointment of a commission to build the Government section of the line from Moncton to Winnipeg by way of Quebec and Lake Abitibi. The discussion in Parliament occupied three months, the general desire being to have a railway which would benefit every province in Canada. The bill passed the third reading on Oct. 23. In the following year certain amendments had to be made relating chiefly to the financial aspects of the project, and the enterprise was then fully launched. The authorized capital was reduced from $75,000,000 to $45,000,000. Of this amount $30,000,000 may be issued as preferred stock. The Grand Trunk Railway, which owns and operates nearly 4,000 miles of railway in the older portion of Canada, acquires all the common stock in consideration of certain guarantees and investment, and must return the majority of the shares during the period of the agreements with the Government. It was to ensure to the Grand Trunk a permanent share in the fruits of the development of Western Canada that moved the older company to action. This was clearly shown by Mr. Hays in his speech, in which he submitted the project to the shareholders in London, in 1904. Over thirty million bushels of grain now comes to the Grand Trunk by way of Georgian Bay and Lake Huron. What its share in the future may be it would not be easy to predict.

GOVERNMENT ROAD PROSOEROUS

Toronto, Jan. 4.—The Provincial Treasurer has received from the Temiskaming & Northern Ontario Railway Commission a certified check for $158,000, which represents part of the net earnings of the Government railway line for the year just closing. When the December returns are received it is expected that the year's operations will show gross earnings from passenger and freight traffic of about $500,000, and net earnings in the neighborhood of $180,000. The amount mentioned as having been turned over to the Provincial Treasurer is sufficient to pay the interest for the last seven and a half months at three and a half per cent. on the English loan of about $6,000,000 floated to meet the original treasury bill for that amount and one-half per cent. to the sinking fund. The net earnings of the railway last year were, in round figures $100,000.

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