

SOME PROSPEROUS SOUTHERN TOWNS

Notes by a Special Representative of The Commercial.

In the part of Southern Manitoba included between Morden and Napinka, a distance of one hundred and forty miles, we find several stretches of country, each having its special features. It is impossible to fix any definite boundary between these since the change from one to the other is gradual and because they hold many points in common.

Taken altogether it contrasts strongly with the country east of Morden. We are no longer in a flat country. There are, of course, some sections of fairly level land, but in general there is a rolling surface varying from gentle slopes to abrupt hills. The general farming purposes the rolling country is to be preferred. Scattered here and there are poplar bluffs, though the trees are not of large size the advantage of a convenient bluff is evident. Stone is frequent, in some places throughout the whole district it is to be found. Sometimes it exists in greater quantity than is desirable, but in most cases where it is used for building purposes there is no great advantage. Another point of great importance is the general abundance of water. In one or two places along the line the water is especially good everywhere good water is obtainable easily and at reasonable depth. Creeks are few and small, but the water stock is pastured in this quite a consideration.

Leaving Morden we begin at once to climb a heavy grade through the Pembina hills. On both sides the land varies from light, almost gravelly soil to clay loam. The surface is rolling and in some places considerably broken but admirably adapted for purposes of mixed farming. Passing through the hills and through the Darlingford we come to the larger and more important town of Manitow. The low-lying town of Manitow is a pretty place. Avenues of maples line the streets and the houses partly hidden behind the trees are of a substantial and homelike appearance. Building goes steadily on. A new block near the railway is being erected to replace several stores burned this spring. There is also being built the normal school to cost \$250,000 and expected to be a fine structure.

Continuing westward we find a somewhat hilly country suitable for grazing and with a good deal of scrubby growth. Through this part flows the Pembina river and in its valley is the little village of Lalliviere. The main object of interest here is the brickyard. The industry is comparatively young but it is expected to develop. It is said that excellent material exists for making fire brick of as good quality as those brought from the United States and if these bricks can be successfully made at Lalliviere a large business will be assured.

From the point the Snowflake branch of the C. P. R. taps the country south. Although comparatively recent construction the district through which it runs is well settled. As we approach Pilot Mound we come again into a grain country. The country extends with few exceptions all the way to Napinka. That part of the country of which Pilot Mound and Crystal City form the centre is an exceptional farming district. The people are of the best class, energetic, progressive and prosperous and the country is well settled. The farms themselves. The buildings are of the most modern and convenient type, the houses are built and painted. Groves for the double purpose of shade and appearance are on most of the places. The growth of stock here is also above the average. Mr. Green, who has heard, near Crystal City, might be instance, who is known best for prize winning wherever exhibited.

From the point where we reach first, is a busy town. The oatmeal mills of Dow & Curry, or rather their product, are the main feature. Throughout the province, Donald & Fraser, bankers and grain merchants; J. D. Campbell and William Macdonald, store men and chainers brokers; hardware, hold the largest share of the town's business.

In Crystal City, only four miles further on, we have also several business

houses deserving of mention. There are the general stores of J. G. Stacey, Sharp & Munro, and J. C. Grunmet, which are each doing good business. The Union Bank of Canada has a branch here. Roblin has a newspaper, "The Courier."

Twenty miles brings us through a country rolling, comparatively level in places rather light in soil, but in a season of fair rainfall highly productive.

The town of Cartwright, in the new territory of Roblin, lies close by the Badger Creek. Since the new municipality was formed Cartwright and the land around has been advanced.



RESIDENCES AND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MANITOW.

ing rapidly. The tradesmen are energetic and jealous of their town's welfare. W. G. Pennington owns a large general store and has a stock well assorted and tastefully displayed. Hunter & Moore carry on both general store and elevator business. L. Phillips holds the hardware trade of the town. There is force in Cartwright a Transient Traders' Act framed to suppress as far as possible house to house canvassing and peddling in the municipality. Of this we expect to speak at more length.

Killarney, the next important village with a population of about eight hundred, is one of the finest towns along the line. To the south, less than half a mile, is Lake Killarney, four miles long the shores well treed and presenting a great source of enjoyment in warm weather. In business circles Marquis & McCulloch have succeeded the Killarney Trading Co. Young & Luck have here a hundred barrel flour mill and sawmill. Other business is good and quite a few local improvements are being carried out. The N. R. running their new line through the town are expected to keep Killarney going as a busy place.

West of Killarney nearly sixteen miles is Hollesvæn. This is a solid town with a steady and rapid growth. The long distance telephone is expected to place Hollesvæn on speaking terms with Winnipeg this year. J. D. Baine and A. R. Welch represent the general store business; R. Price the hardware; Hurt & McKay the milling interests. All other lines are handled and big local trade done.

Two hundred miles by rail from Winnipeg lies Deloraine, the practical farming capital of the north. New branch lines reach out from here toward the west. The Vaskada to the west and the Sauris line to the west, connecting with the Sauris line at Napinka.

The Vaskada line runs through a fine farming section. Some of the land is low but when a little more cultivated no trouble is expected from that source. The land that is now worked is first class and in point of prices is advancing rapidly. The farmers on this line, Goodlands, Vaskada, Coulter and Lyleton, are all comparatively new and all are growing rapidly. New buildings are everywhere to be seen and the outlook for business is excellent.

Deloraine, the junction point, lies in an excellent farming country. Land is held as high as forty dollars per acre for improved farms.

The village itself lacks a sufficient supply of water, but the neighborhood is fortunately not so badly off. A branch of the Hudson's Bay stores, Montgomery & Colquhoun and C. E. Guttridge hold the general business of the town; Mr. Boyd the furniture business; A. J. Falconer the hardware and J. S. Loughhead the lumber; Mitchell & Son and C. E. Steven do large business in dressed and live meats. Of newspapers there are two, The Advertiser and The Times, so it can be seen that Deloraine is in all respects modern.

Throughout the country through which we have just come there has been much accomplished. There is scarcely any land that can not be fully utilized and though it is true to a limited extent that there is a boom on the solid worth of the land remains a fact and being peopled all through with a good class it is only reasonable to look forward to a continuation of the prosperity which now exists.

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INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

(Special Correspondence.)

The Shingle Manufacturers' association again met this week and decided to still defer action in closing down all the shingle mills until the surplus supply on hand was diminished. It was thought that the situation might improve without the extreme measure

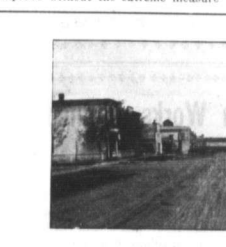
this time of year better than any other the mills would face a strike without a great deal of inconvenience. One hundred and twenty-one licenses to cut timber for government purposes were issued during the month of May, 41 of them being renewals. These licenses represent a revenue to the government of \$12,100. The past week 110 licenses were applied for. This is due to the fact that all timber limits must be renewed before a license can be granted, which costs 10¢ per acre. In addition, there is no diminution, but an actual increase in the demand for licenses.

Another large saw mill and shingle mill will in all probability, be erected in Vancouver at an early date. The Battle of Texas, is now in the city, and is making extensive inquiries into the possibilities of obtaining timber limits. If he can obtain sufficient to keep a large mill going he will influence American capital to establish a large industry here.

Other arrangements completed for the establishment of a shingle mill on Toho River, 100 miles up the coast. Mr. W. H. Higgins, president of the loggers' association, has been operating stock company, of which he is managing director, has decided to erect a shingle mill. This will handle a large part of the cedar output of the big claims which Mr. Higgins is operating, while the other timber will be shipped to Vancouver.

Some time ago H. G. Ross, secretary of the logging association, applied to the government for permission to start a logging warehouse in Vancouver harbor. It is still water, around the point of the Narrows, where vessels enter the harbor. It was outside the navigable stream, and the boom was not to interfere in any way with navigation. The city council and park commissioners (the boom would have faced the park) objected to the log warehouse scheme.

Subsequently the Pacific Coast Lumber Company started up, and without asking used a portion of the harbor, asked for by Ross, driving in the boom. The harbor master ordered their removal, but got an order from the government not to interfere. This week, however, the government has changed its mind and have ordered the harbor master to insist upon immediate removal of the piles. This is a great interference to oarsmen and yachtsmen, as the boom interfered with the racing course.



MAIN STREET, MANITOW.

being taken. It would also be a great hardship on the men to throw them out of employment. Thus, until the end of next week no action will be taken. The workworkers' union strike is still on, and the earthenware potters are virtually forced into a strike in sympathy because they are not being supplied with material to work with.

Scarcely a union in the city has not struck or threatened to strike this year. The Royal Labor Commission amount of evidence from employers and employees regarding the strikes, and as both sides ask for compulsory arbitration, there is no doubt that for British Columbia at least compulsory arbitration will be placed on the statutes. The threatened strike of workers in the saw mills and shingle mills will hardly take place in the present condition of the markets. The shingle mills would not at all object to close the mills for a time, and at

General Notes.

In Pittsburg the mill operators and stonemasons today are being fighting one another and matters have reached such a pass that the employers have stopped all work in which these trades were interested with the intention of keeping the men idle until they get cooled off.

"Profitable Poultry Farming" (revised edition) has just received at this office from the chief of the bureau of division, department of agriculture, Ottawa, is a bulletin of 48 pages describing the construction of poultry houses, the feeding of poultry, the hatching, rearing, fattening and marketing of chickens, and also the diseases of poultry. The bulletin is a complete poultry guide. It is filled with practical information and is well illustrated. "Profitable Poultry Farming" will be mailed free to any address on application to Ottawa. Postage is not required when writing for the bulletin.