

Houses and How to Get Them

Tents at Medicine Hat

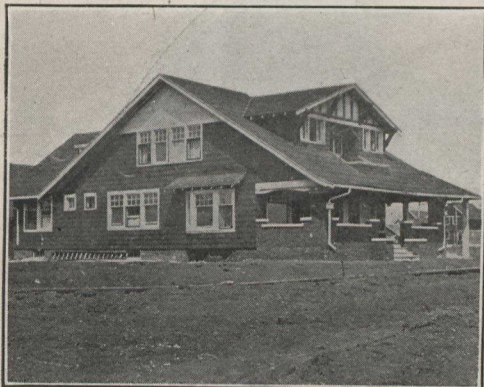
MEDICINE HAT deals effectively with the housing problem. The "Hat" has a present population of 16,000, which a year ago is said to have been 12,000. The reason for the influx is—gas. Natural gas means cheap power, factories, workers, population. Since the beginning of 1913 seven new industries have gone into Medicine Hat, at a capital expenditure of \$5,000,000 and employment of labor up to 1,000 hands. A street railway will soon be completed. Many of the present new arrivals in the town are engaged in construction work. To house these and the skilled workers is a problem recently tackled by the municipality—with great vigor. The city obtained from the Legislative Assembly the right to erect houses to the extent of \$100,000 a year. No steps have yet been taken to build houses by the municipality, which will probably submit a by-law for that purpose, and when houses are built they will likely be rented.

In the meantime, the city has put up a tent town for the accommodation of the extra population. Fifty tents have been erected on lower Main Street. They are rented at a nominal rate, provided with water and gas and sanitary arrangements. In

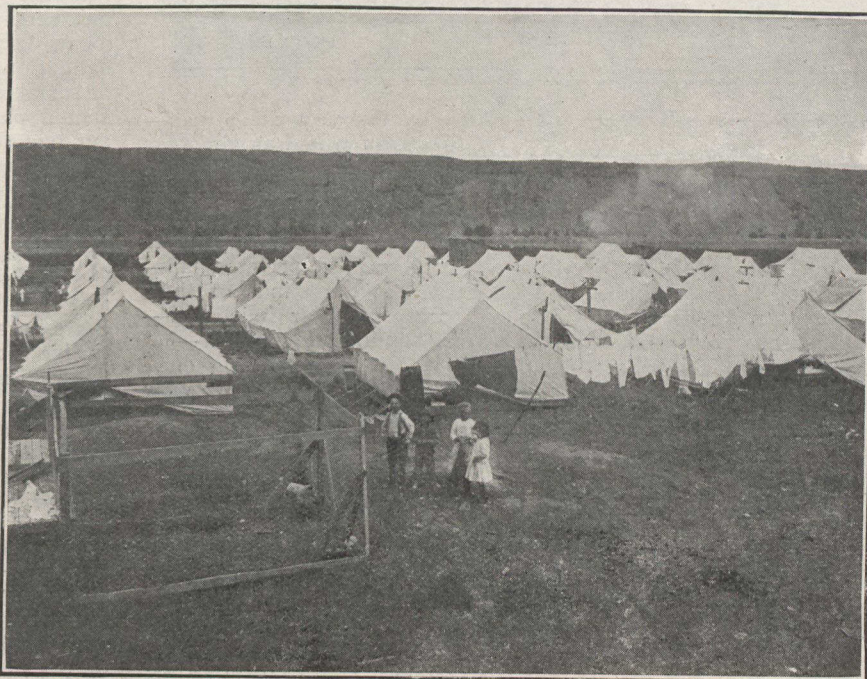
REBUILDING REGINA.



Home of the Railway Mission Anglican Clergyman on Sixteenth Avenue.



A Roomy, New Bungalow, Owned by Mr. J. M. Young.



The Medicine Hat City Council Pitched a Tent City to Accommodate the Many New Arrivals Who Were Unable to Get Houses.

one day twenty applications were received for tents. In the fall, when the building activities are able to catch up to the demand the tent-dwellers will move into houses.

Other cities in the West have found it necessary to house hundreds of people in tents. In fact, most of the larger cities are seldom without a suburban colony of tent-dwellers, not only in summer, but on into the winter. This is less characteristic now than it was a few years ago, when building and building labor was less organized. But so long as the movement of people into the West keeps up, the larger places will continue to attract a large percentage of the influx, and tents will be necessary.

New Houses in Regina

ALITTLE over a year ago a cyclone devastated two of the chief residence streets in Regina. Several homes were ruined and many badly wrecked. Regina, however, began to rebuild. At present very few traces of the cyclone are left. The four pictures shown here are a few of the many costly houses put up recently in a city that never has quite houses enough for its people. These residences cost from \$16,000 to \$30,000 each. They are as various in style as the inhabitants. Regina takes no stock in the rumour that western towns and cities are at present very much overbuilt; because Regina has come to the size and population where there is always a steady demand for houses. When a good percentage of the people live in houses costing from \$10,000 to \$20,000 each, a very large percentage must be living in houses that cost up to \$5,000, and a relatively small proportion in the kind of houses that can be thrown together from a few loads of lumber and a keg of nails. The best general way to make land of a high foot frontage earn its value is to build houses that are in keeping with the cost of the land—for people who are able to afford the expense of both. As long as the value of the houses approximates to the cost of the land they occupy, no city will ever be overbuilt or built on a merely speculative basis.

The good house of to-day in the west needs as great a variety of materials as a good house in any other part of Canada. The cost is higher, because the style is more modern, and the kinds of materials more various. More kinds of skilled labour are needed. Employment is given to a large number of people and a great variety of industries. And as long as the west is engaged in putting a lot of its money into good houses there need be little fear of unemployment or slack times.

REBUILDING REGINA.



Alderman G. B. Patton Has This Newly-Completed Home on Scarth Street and Sixteenth.

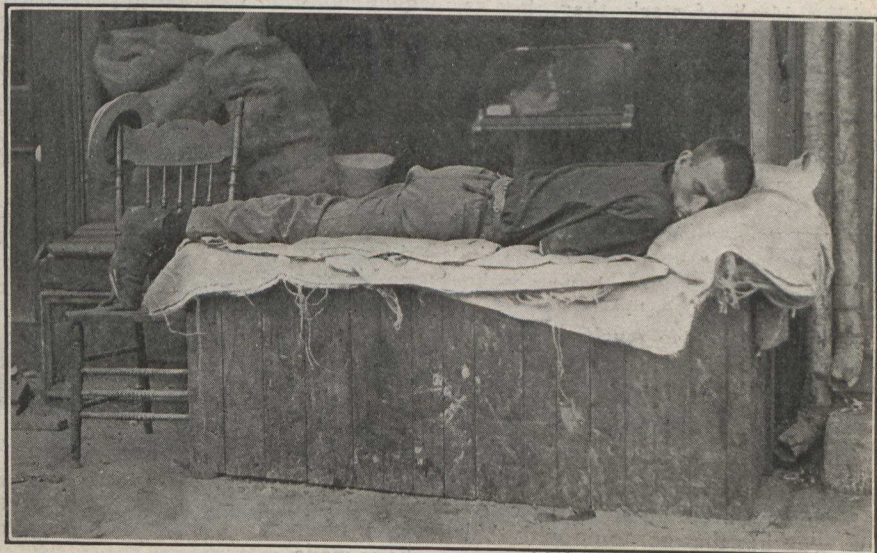


New Residence of Mr. L. V. Kerr on Smith Street.

Where Houses are Superfluous in Hot Weather



Five a.m. in a Canadian Ghetto During the Hot Spell.



The Other Ten or a Dozen of the Family May Look After Themselves.