

Opportunities in Alberta

General Information

AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS. The Provincial Government has established Agricultural Schools at Claresholm, Olds and Vermilion. These were opened in October, 1913, the first and second year's work being attended by signal success. A two-years' course is given. A central Agricultural College, where higher instruction will be given and a degree conferred, was started in conjunction with the Provincial University, October 1st, 1915.

AREA. The province comprises the old territorial districts of Alberta and the western part of the district of Athabasca. It was created a province in 1905. From north to south it is 750 miles long and at its widest part about 400 miles wide. The total area is 253,540 sq. miles, as compared with Great Britain and Ireland, 121,377; France, 207,220; Germany, 208,850; Austria-Hungary, 241,433; New England States, U.S.A., 135,745.

AREA CULTIVATED. The province contains 100,000,000 acres of cultivable land of which only about 3,000,000 are actually under crop.

CLIMATE. There is one common flora requiring a high summer temperature from U.S. boundary to Lake Athabasca, i.e., the Northern Districts are in the same class for grain culture as the country near Winnipeg, Regina, or Calgary. The chief factors of the Alberta climate are:

CHINOOK WINDS. Warm winds blowing from the mountains, though more common in the South, occur along the whole range of the Rockies. They have been known to cause a rise in temperature of 60 degrees in a few hours.

ISOTHERMAL LINES. On the east the isothermal lines turn northward from the west coast of Hudson's Bay. On the west they turn north from the Gulf of California, cross the Rockies at the s.w. corner of Alberta, meeting the eastward currents about the Hand Hills.

ALTITUDE. South of the U.S. boundary is a plateau 500,000 sq. miles at 6,000 ft. above sea level, falling at the boundary to 4,000 ft. and 700 miles farther north to 1,000 ft.

SUNSHINE. In the north, from June 1st to August 1st there are but 2 hours of darkness. The sun works longer.

RAINFALL. The greatest rainfall is in May, June, July and part of August—the growing season. The latter parts