

of the Sicamous and Okanagan Branch with the Main Line of the C. P. Ry.

Beyond the post office and store, and a new hotel not far from the main line we shall not discover more than the usual C. P. Ry. offices and commodious hotel, one or two cottages nestling under the bank overlooking the station, an engine-house, water-tank and coaling sheds, and finally, the branch line itself. This last we shall make it our business to traverse, for it will take us into the heart of the Okanagan Valley.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Belding, J. B., station agent C. P. R.
Congreve, L. H., prop. Hotel Bellevue.
Finlayson, Mrs. M., general store and post office.
Keithley, J., baggage master.

London, J., govt. telegraph and telephone lineman.
Moore, Mrs., prop. C. P. R. Hotel.
Power, Jas., C. P. R. conductor.
Van Antwerp, W. F., engineer S. & O. branch passenger train.

MARA

IF we were to take the trip from Sicamous Junction to Mara by launch as did some of the settlers before the branch line was built,—for the Spallumcheen is easily navigable even to Enderby,—we should traverse a succession of lakes and broad stretches of river meandering amongst low-lying and partially-submerged brush land, and so save twelve miles of a railroad trip, through somewhat uninteresting country.

At one time Mara boasted a sawmill, a stopping house, a public school, and similar signs of activity; but since the sawmill closed down all that remains of importance, other than a few outlying farms, is the school. This, too, would seem strange, as the district is by no means deficient either in quantity or quality of land. Beside being on the S. & O. branch line this settlement is connected with Enderby and other parts by a good government road and by bush trails and roads.

There is little more to be told of this charming but (at present) dormant spot, and since we must depend for accommodation on the hospitality of those inhabitants who live near by, it might be as well if we continue our journey by rail to Enderby and, while so doing, take a passing glance at the wonderful changes of country en route.

Hitherto the river and the railroad seem to have monopolised most of the Valley, but as we near Enderby the country opens out in all its most attractive manner. Farms and young orchards, meadows and green pastures, belts of timber alternating with freshly plowed land follow one another in quick succession; all creating a vivid impression of genuine rural prosperity which, a moment later, is brought home to us by the bright and busy aspect of the surroundings.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Cousins, Miss B. V., principal Mara school. Little, Chas., govt. road foreman.

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