

Opportunities in Alberta

General Information

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES. The Provincial Government has decided to establish Agricultural Colleges at Claresholm, Olds and Vermilion. It is proposed that there should be a two years' course at these colleges, and that a central Agricultural College shall be established later on, where higher instruction will be given and a degree conferred.

AREA. Alberta has 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., 165,745. The province contains 100,000,000 acres of cultivable land, of which less than 2,000,000 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 part of August and September are dry.