

A City While You Wait.

(Edmonton Free Press)

In the history of the Anglo-Saxon race on the North American continent, since the days when the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth-Rock and commenced that era of settlement and civilization which has been for three hundred years spreading like a fan west, south and north from the Atlantic seaboard there have been enacted few more dramatic or picturesque incidents than the appropriation of the last vest by the agriculturalist and the consequent spectacular production of centres of trade which are being brought into existence over night, so to speak, and projected into prominence as cities of the steppe in so quickly that a kitespinner working on the high gear would not keep pace with their movements.

There is no other stretch of country in the western hemisphere today in which there is anything like the activity that is shown in that part of Canada lying between the Red River and the Rocky mountains.

For instance, if those there be, who having seen still doubt, evidence indisputable is found in a second's reflection on the railway development.

The statistics of railway construction in United States for the year 1906 indicate that there have been constructed or are under construction to be completed this year 5,000 miles of railway. This marks the current year as one of the greatest in railway development in the history of the American Union.

In the provinces of Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan there will be laid next year more than half as much steel as was laid in the whole of the United States during the present year.

The Grand Trunk Pacific alone will lay close to 900 miles of steel west of the Red River before the snow furries close the plains in 1907. The Canadian Pacific will put the iron on nearly 800 miles of track now being graded between Winnipeg and Edmonton. James J. Hill is laying a strip of steel 1,200 miles long across the south half of the inland empire of which 500 or 600 miles will be laid next summer. And the Canadian Northern can be confidently counted on to grade and iron 200 or 400 miles of track from Edmonton into the mountains at Yellowstone Pass.

These are the roads which will certainly be made ready for operation next year, somewhere between 2,500 and 3,500 miles of track, and many more to be dealt with with certainties only.

In the entire United States, where they built 5,000 miles of railway this year, there are close to one hundred million people. In the Canadian west where they will build 2,500 miles next year there are scarcely one million people. On a basis of population the ratio is 30 to 1 in their favour, yet this does not tell the whole story. Most of the railroads which are being laid down in United States are being constructed to serve communities already built and long settled. Most of the railroads which are being laid down in Canada are building and settling as they go the communities which will serve when constructed.

This is the chrysalis of the whole story and this is why we see cities like Edmonton jumping from 3,000 in 1901 to 12,000 population in 1906.

Of all the cities which are being wrought out of this wonderful era of expansion none other has a story to tell like Edmonton; and perform none other could, for none other is to the same extent the objective point of the railway construction. All lines are headed this way and all railway profiles have Edmonton marked large and red as the city of their desire.

It is a perfect confidence in the knowledge of this fact which has led Edmonton people to place such faith in their town, but this very confidence has led most of us to regard lightly or with indifference the things which have been laid down.

For instance, how many of us are aware that the building for the first ten months of this year is two and one-half times greater than for the whole of last year.

In 1907 the building of Edmonton will be \$702,724. To the 31st of October, 1906 it was \$1,755,829.

The following are the official figures taken from the returns in the building inspectors office:

BUILDING RECORDS.

January	\$ 12,418
February	56,920
March	102,915
April	215,927
May	410,828
June	244,010
July	207,410
August	212,165
September	212,311
October	307,928
Total	\$1,755,829

This places Edmonton as fifth in building among the cities of Canada, being surpassed only by cities of the very first magnitude. Montreal, of course, leads with close to \$15,000,000 of building for this year. Winnipeg comes second with \$11,675,000 to date. Toronto, although second largest, in population in the Dominion is third in building so far, being just half a million behind Winnipeg. Vancouver the Sunset Doorway of the Dominion is fourth with a promise of crowding the curriculum map before the close of the year. Edmonton is fifth with its \$1,755,000 outstripping by hundreds of thousands many cities of much larger population such as Hamilton, London, Halifax, St. John, Ottawa and Quebec. Regina, Edmonton's happy rival, for western pre-eminence, is less than a quarter of a million behind us and coming strong in the

stretch, her building to October 31st being \$1,597,538. Calgary, Lethbridge, Brandon and all other western towns, while showing phenomenal growth, are far enough down to be ranked among the cent-cent cities of the east where progress is measured by geologic periods instead of with a stop watch.

In the City of Edmonton, since the first of January, 1906, there have been built or are now under construction 858 buildings of all classes. There has been no time since the snow went off last spring and even before that the resident within the city could get beyond the music of the hammer and saw. Considering that there have been six large hotels added during the summer it would be safe to estimate that the buildings provide accommodation for five persons each on an average, which means that four thousand more people find accommodation in Edmonton this winter than did last. Nevertheless there have been 2,500 people under canvas in the city all summer and there are still many who cannot find other accommodation. Looking at it in another way, over 1,000 lots which last spring were speculative property have been withdrawn from the market and are now being used for residential or business purposes. This is a phase of the case which should tend to stiffen the real estate market.

To look at it in yet another way, there have been 578 dwellings built within the past ten months and when it is considered that the average cost of all the buildings constructed was over \$2,000 it will readily be seen that no city in America is building a greater proportion of comfortable homes.

In the public buildings constructed Edmonton leads the whole of the west. The new separate school cost \$45,000. The Y.M.C.A., which is being built on a purely voluntary subscription will cost \$50,000. The Edmonton club now nearing completion will cost \$19,000. The isolation hospital cost \$19,000. The new telephone central being built by the city will cost \$29,538. The building alone. The C.P.R. spent \$11,000 on a freight shed which is regarded as for temporary purposes only. Dominion government cost \$10,000. Among the hotels, the new palatial, King Edward, which will be opened in a few days cost Ferguson & Callhoun, heating, decorating and interior finishing and the Castle cost \$22,000 on a same basis while the Cecil which is already running several weeks, long enough to be counted one of the old timers, cost \$20,000. The Edmonton hotel spent \$5,000 on an addition and \$3,500 to rebuild and modernize the Jasper. The big buildings downtown the most costly was the home office structure being erected by the Imperial Bank, the pioneer banking concern of the city. The estimate calls for a \$75,000 building. The Credit Foncier are spending \$35,000 on their building. Revillon Bros. are building an addition to their already mammoth stores to cost \$30,000. John Somerville's new hardware store on First Street will cost \$28,000.

Among the mercantile people almost every one of them have found it necessary to build greater warehouses, some of them finding it necessary to erect a second and even a third one before the first was completed.

A partial list of the wholesale and warehouse buildings constructed during the past summer is as follows:

Talfer Bros.	\$17,505
Edmonton Ice Co.	3,100
Campbell Furniture Co.	3,700
Bellamy Implement Co.	2,800
Edmonton Produce Co.	1,000
J. W. Lachambre	10,000
Ross McCready	2,100
James Bros.	1,400
Geo. Hutton	1,600
J. W. Walker	2,150
Revillon Bros.	1,300
R. D. Fraser	1,300
Arthur Congton	3,500
Alberta Milling Co.	1,000
McCoy & Secord	1,400
Chas. May	2,000
Robert Warden	1,400
Revillon Bros., College Ave.	2,500
H. Watti	2,350
City of Edmonton	3,350
Edmonton Milling Co.	3,000
J. H. Watts	1,300

The Great West Saddlery spent \$5,000 enlarging their premises and the Edmonton Tent and Mattress Co., had scarcely finished a \$3,000 factory when they found it necessary to commence on a \$6,000 building for the same purpose.

John Walters, Cushing Bros. D. P. Fraser and W. R. McFarlane have all found the lumber business such as to warrant extensive enlargements. Ten thousand has been spent in enlarging the existing offices of the town. The number of restaurants, eating houses and boarding houses which have been built would fill half a column.

The Cere of the Grain Producer

CORROBORATIVE STATEMENT
William Floyd, laborer, made a declaration that on Nov. 8, 1906, he, at the direction of Mr. Storey, the agent in charge of the Winnipeg elevator at Oakville, bagged up a lot of screenings, 10 bags in all, and had afterwards helped Mr. Storey to put these screenings in the hopper of the elevator and elevate them into the shipping bin. The only evidence in rebuttal was an affidavit by Albert Storey, the agent in question to the effect that he had never loaded any wheat into this car but that it might have been loaded by Mr. Body and that no screenings had been added, etc., etc.

The whole matter had been brought before the warehouse committee and there was a lengthy statement from Deputy Commissioner Snow which concluded as follows: "Looking at the fact that both parties admitted the grain was well cleaned, it is rather surprising how much dirt was in the car and more especially as many fine seeds which any cleaner could be made to take out, but the question is complicated by the fact that the car was partly loaded by Mr. Body at the loading platform and then emptied by the Winnipeg elevator, and it is impossible to get anyone to say or to show that the grain was the same as it would be if they had the handling of all this wheat."

At the close of this case by Mr. McEwen, Mr. Body took the stand, and answered some questions mainly asked by Mr. E. Goldie, who desired to bring out just how Mr. Body had sold the car. He stated that he had not seen the car after it was finally loaded and had not sold it until about ten days after, but there had been an understanding that the Winnipeg elevator Co. was to have it if they paid the same price as anyone else.

Mr. H. Haisell, manager of the Farmers' Trading Co., called attention to a case where he had ordered cars of special bin in the C.N.R. to be sent to Port Arthur, but the other railway company had sent them to their own elevator at Port Arthur. The car had been bought specially for brewing purposes and it did not answer to the purpose. He called the railway company's attention to the matter and they pointed out that clause 2 of the back of a special bin contract stipulated the power to do this. He considered this a very arbitrary measure and he thought the clause should be amended.

Another grievance brought forward by Mr. Haisell was that in a car sent by Mr. A. A. Horn, who had shipped to Mr. A. A. Horn, and it was found that they had been sent to "A. A. Horn" and not to the intended consignee. He thought the railway company should be held responsible for this.

David McCowan, clerk of the rural municipality of Portage la Prairie, presented a case for John Ross who had shipped a car and consigned it to the name of Mr. McCowan. He had been wrongly addressed to "A. A. Macdonald" and the car had not been sent to a loss by having wheat run into a second term elevator.

W. N. Gray, a farmer of Portage la Prairie, presented a case where he had shipped two cars of wheat, one of which was graded No. 1 and the other No. 2. He had received a letter from Mr. Horn that the rejected car should have been the best of the lot. He had sold the car on the rejected grade and wrote Mr. Horn to reject. Later Mr. Horn had sent him another certificate of grade, which read: "No. 1 northern rejected. He did not know what was the meaning of it."

George A. MacHan, of Bagot, mentioned a case of a car of wheat shipped to the Alex. Brown Milling company, and by mistake had been sent to the Lakes of Ontario. The car had been cleaned and loaded, the car amounting to 37 bushels. The Lake of Ontario elevator had rejected the car and the car was being reshipped to the Lakes of Ontario.

It was pointed out that this was the only way to proceed. This closed the evidence for today. The sitting opened tomorrow at 10 o'clock and the commissioner will hear the evidence and the evening train for Brandon. From there they will go to Cypress River, and after that the next move is not known.

History of the Guelph Street Railway

By Mr. F. W. Gelbraith writes the Bulletin from Calgary.

"As a former resident of Guelph I was much interested, as well as gratified, with the very favorable showing of the Guelph street railway under municipal ownership and civic management detailed in last night's issue, and I would cordially support those who are endeavoring to have the progressive city of Edmonton adopt a similar far-sighted policy.

"The Guelph street railway owed its inception in 1855 to the public spiritedness of Mr. Geo. Sleeman, a widely-known Ontario brewer and one who has served the city of Guelph as mayor for five or six years at different times. He was in advance of his time in this regard, however, as the city had not enough population to maintain the road on the basis on which he ran it, and his expectations of radial railway connection from Hamilton and other districts did not materialize within the time anticipated. He turned down one or two fairly favorable offers for the road as part of a radial system, notably that of the Grand Valley Railway company, but financial difficulties finally overtook him and the banks took possession of the street railway among his other assets on which some \$98,000 had been spent, but which at that time, 1858-60, did not pay running expenses, yet alone any capital charges. The banks were trying to sell the road and to that end, renewed existing charters for radial extension and secured new ones. The road had a fifty-year franchise, of which only five or six years had run, and the city council, in view of the likelihood of the road passing to outsiders, had a provision inserted in the banks' bill in the Legislature concerning the road which gave it to the city on the condition of buying the road for \$78,000. Barring the telegraph and telephone companies, this was the only civic service which had rights on the city streets, and the citizens had bought the gas and electric light and power plants a year before. In order to preserve and secure full rights on their streets, and in order to hold the entrance of radial roads to the city on terms satisfactory to the city, the ratepayers bought the street railway from the banks, though it was not a paying concern, and the council appointed as directors of the road the streetcar committee, and the city council, and three citizens from among those who had been active in supporting the civic ownership scheme, these were Mr. J. E. Snow, Mr. A. L. Ryan, and Mr. J. J. Drew, and it is to the marked business ability of the board and the excellent management of Mr. J. E. Snow that the street railway has been so rapidly improved, but has been put on a profitable commercial basis.

The population of Guelph at the 1850 census was 12,000, and the city has since that time increased to 25,000. The number of performances in each company is limited to 50 but they must all comply with the decision of the executive committee respecting amateur as follows: "No person who has written or composed, or who has refused to sanction the engagement, of the profession of music or the drama is eligible. It is not intended to exclude musicians, or dramatists, who, while music or the drama is not their main calling, have accepted nominal pay from church choirs, amateur music organizations and amateur dramatic associations."

Entrances must be made before the 15th of December. Previous notification of intention to enter will be of service to the committee.

Companies may comprise either ladies or gentlemen, or both. The language may be either in English or French.

F. C. O'HARA,
Municipal Secretary,
Ottawa, Nov. 6th, 1906.

WESTERN ITEMS

Preliminary steps have been taken at Regina, by the executive of the Agricultural Society for the inauguration of a provincial exhibition, which it is expected to hold next year. A committee has been appointed to wait on what conditions the department will lend assistance, and after this conference a definite scheme will be undertaken. It is said there is a probability that the old association will have to dissolve and reorganize under the Joint Stock Companies' Act in order to get the government to cooperate, but this will not be definitely known until the minister of agriculture has been interviewed.

WANT MONEY ON ZINC

The subject of zinc duty and bounty has been engaging considerable attention in British Columbia for some time. Thomas Jones, works manager of the Canadian Metal Company, had this to say of it in Nelson, recently.

"I do not think that there is any part of the mining industry which more deserves help than does zinc

jumped the track about a mile south of Innisfail last week, causing a delay to the north and south-bound trains. None of the crew on the freight train were hurt.

The directors of the Innisfail Agricultural Society held a meeting on November 2nd. Matters relative to the organization of farmers will be considered at the next meeting, to be held on December 10th. A motion, proposing that the society hold a seed grain fair this winter was carried.

Get our best men interested, get them to give some of their reliable business experience and ability to the public good on municipal commissions or boards; and there is no doubt about the success and advantage of municipal ownership in Edmonton. The key is good business management and it has paid Guelph generously."

Guelph is a very strong municipal ownership city, because of the very gratifying success of all its public utilities. The net profit of the gas and electric light and power plant last year after allowing for depreciation and paying interest, was \$12,000, on a capital of \$135,000. Fifteen or twenty years ago, the citizens invested \$200,000 in the Guelph Junction road, a steam railway fifteen miles long to Hamilton.

MUSICAL AND THEATRICAL COMPETITION

The executive committee in charge of His Excellency's Musical and Theatrical Competition, to take place at Ottawa in the week commencing January 28th, has announced that each competing company must be prepared to meet its own expenses, it being understood that the various competing companies are representing their respective cities for the honour of winning His Excellency's Trophy, and the cities eligible to send such representatives are those which have assisted in defraying their expenses.

The transportation committee, however, are confident of obtaining special railway rates, which prompt notification will be given within a few days.

The reception committee will also arrange for the lowest possible hotel and boarding house rates and in addition thereto as many members as possible of the visiting companies (especially those from a distance) will be entertained in private homes during their stay in Ottawa.

The general committee at Ottawa has assumed all the expenses in connection with the theatre for the week and all other incidental expenses.

Following are the conditions of the competition open to British North America:

- The competition will take place at Russell theatre, Ottawa, during the week commencing the 28th of January, 1907.
- Each provincial capital city, and each city having a population of 50,000 and St. John's, Newfoundland, may send one company. If two or more companies in any one city desire to compete, the competition, the one receiving the endorsement of the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province shall alone be entitled to enter.
- The entertainment given by each company shall be limited to one hour and a half.
- The character of the entertainment, whether musical theatrical or otherwise shall be absolutely in the discretion of the respective companies. The number of performers in each company is limited to 50 but they must all comply with the decision of the executive committee respecting amateur as follows: "No person who has written or composed, or who has refused to sanction the engagement, of the profession of music or the drama is eligible. It is not intended to exclude musicians, or dramatists, who, while music or the drama is not their main calling, have accepted nominal pay from church choirs, amateur music organizations and amateur dramatic associations."
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THE GREAT WESTERN COAL FIELDS

Ottawa, Nov. 12.—T. C. Dittis, of the geologic survey, in his report on the Western Canada coal industry, states that there are twenty million tons of coal in the coal fields of Alberta and Saskatchewan, besides the smaller mines supplying coal for local wants. In 1906 the production was a million tons of the value of over two million dollars. In eighteen years production had increased to 10,000,000 tons. The coal bearing areas of these provinces are placed in 65,000 square miles.

Mr. Jones stated that while the smelter of the Metal Company has been shut out temporarily, pending alterations, it shipped last month a first consignment of spelter, 40 tons in all, to Montreal.

HILL WANTS FREE TRADE

Chicago, Nov. 10.—James J. Hill was the guest of honor at a banquet given by the Merchants Club to-night and delivered an extended address upon "Our Outlook for the Future of the Canadian." In the course of his lecture he stated figures showing that the trade with the provinces of the United States will be able to reach by the construction of the Panama Canal, an amount of about \$5,000,000,000 annually, while the United States trade with Canada is over \$200,000,000 per annum. He continued: "Whatever arrangements may be made for the future, the United States will be able to handle the various parts and this city will receive and continue to receive the greatest benefits under a more liberal trade convention. Canada will, in any event, and under its system, be opened up, and highly developed. It will then be disadvantageous for us to share in the product of the fields of Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan? The time is opportune for a practical movement toward the Decade relations with Canada. There has been increasing irritation towards our attitude and already the fact that our average tariff against the Dominion is 43.3 per cent, that of Canada against the United States is 24.8, causes concern and a general feeling of dissatisfaction has been created for ethical trade or amply reciprocity between the two countries."

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Montville, Ala.

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mining and reduction. When I first came into the country many of the Sloan mines had mills, were letting their tailings go to waste down the streams. Under my earnest representations this ceased, and now the mills have mostly followed the example afforded them, at my suggestion, by the Sloan Star, and are saving their zinc and storing it for a market. The Sloan Star to my certain knowledge, within two months after the alteration of its mill, sold its zinc savings for \$2,000, a sum very well worth the present unfortunate litigation, is not running its mill regularly, and in consequence the same output is not now being maintained.

"There is no doubt," continued Mr. Jones, "that there is plenty of zinc in the country. Many a lead mine owner will tell you that he has four tons of zinc to one ton of lead ore. The question is to get a market for it. The situation is critical. There is a consumption in Canada of about 2,000 tons per annum. Japan needs from 3,500 to 4,000 tons yearly and China about half as much. As to the market in the United States, from that Canadians are entirely excluded, as it is perfectly protected by the import duty. Hence, although it is the highest market in the world, we cannot get access to it because of that duty. Now the Frank smelter, as renovated, will be able to handle about 30 to 40 tons of zinc ore daily, from which will be obtained about 10 to 15 tons of spelter, averaging 12 tons probably upon the present basis. This means a production of about 4,000 tons a year, or twice the requirements of the Canadian market. But were we bound to foster we could then enter upon the markets of the Orient, and compete successfully with the United States, and probably be able to market the whole of our product."

Mr. Jones stated that while the smelter of the Metal Company has been shut out temporarily, pending alterations, it shipped last month a first consignment of spelter, 40 tons in all, to Montreal.

A large sugar beet grown by J. W. Jewell of Frankburg and weighing 8 1/2 pounds, is on exhibition in a High River office. Mr. Jewell, as a result of a careful experiment during the past season, claims that sugar beets can be most successfully and profitably produced in the High River district. The acre of beets cultivated by him will produce beets averaging 2 3/4 to 3 pounds. Something of a general interest has been created, and some residents of High River suggest the consideration of a sugar beet factory.

Large sales of cattle have been made on the ranges about Calgary, where the shipping stock is being rounded up.

Mr. George Clode, of Fernie, an old-timer, who was well known and highly esteemed throughout the Pass country, died suddenly last week. Mr. Clode died in the hospital at Fernie after chloroform had been administered to him and before the intended operation was begun.

A ROYAL WEDDING

Prince Arthur of Connaught, whose visit to Edmonton during his Canadian tour last summer, is still pleasantly remembered, is to wed Lady Victoria Manners, daughter of the Duke of Rutland. Lady Victoria is a niece of Hon. Claude Manners, of Moosemin, Sask. For more than two years this attachment has been an engrossing topic in English society circles. The King, however, refused to sanction the engagement, and it was said that the diplomatic tips of the prince abroad were designed to divert attention from his little romance. This, however, proved futile, as the announcement of the prince's engagement to the lady of Devonshire was made.

The constancy of Prince Arthur to Lady Victoria has at last overcome the objection of King Edward to the proposed bride's lack of dowry, and his royal uncle after two years of waiting has given his consent to the marriage.

For many months after the refusal of the King to give his consent except on terms accepted, Prince Arthur was, with difficulty restrained by his royal relatives from renouncing all his rights to royal position and marrying despite his uncle's opposition.

The genuine affection shown by the young couple is reported to have aroused the King's admiration, and finding that all his plans for Prince Arthur's future were obstinately opposed by his nephew unless they included his marriage to Lady Marjorie, finally gave his consent to their union.

Lady Marjorie, who was born in 1833, is very pretty, and has been extremely popular in London society. She is a petite brunette, with piquant features and soft brown curly hair. She has been a favorite model for many great painters, and to a girl of the present generation has never been painted than she. Her mother (best known as the Marchioness of Granby) has made pencil sketches of her in every position, and she has been sculptured in half a dozen poses.

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