

Mariday Park  
—the Acropolis of Thunder Bay

## MARIDAY PARK

### THE COMMANDING HEIGHTS OF THE GRANDEST OF HARBORS

And the earth is bathed in splendor  
While mountain, valley and stream  
Reflect in a million glinting shafts  
The dazzling solar beam.  
—Nicholas Jeddore.

#### *Location and History*

The city of Port Arthur rises on a succession of terraces, from the shores of Thunder Bay, culminating in less than half a mile, and at an altitude of 198 feet, in the broad plateau of Mariday Park. This location affords the city's most magnificent view of the panorama of Thunder Bay, including Thunder Cape (1,350 feet high), the Welcome Islands, Mount McKay (1,000 feet high), the valley of the Kamistikuna and the sister city of Fort William. Here one has a splendid outlook over the harbor of Thunder Bay, upon whose waters float a ceaseless procession of the ponderous leviathans of lake traffic, and whose commodious docks and elevators receive the golden cargoes which feed the Empire's millions.

Mariday was acquired and held, almost since the inception of Port Arthur, by a somewhat different character—Alderman Daniel Francis Burk—who in the early days pinned his faith, future and funds to the then undeveloped resources on the shores of Thunder Bay. Adhering tenaciously to the belief that the then embryo site must, at a not-too-distant date, become the location of a populous and prosperous city, he proceeded to apply the British motto "What we have we hold," to the situation, and forthwith placed a "Nothing doing" sign on the property.

Possessed with the three outstanding characteristics of the pioneer of this country—*sagacity, sense and sand*—Daniel Francis Burk bent his energies in other directions, arranged to liquidate the demands of the Tax Collector—and waited.

Time flies—but nowhere as in the West. The clearance became a hamlet, the hamlet merged into a village, the village assumed the proportions of a town—the Hand of Destiny was at work. The patron of the Blazed Trail—the speculator from the more effete East, dropped around and commenced to sit up and make a few observations.

"Who owns that hundred acres up on the hill?" was what he queried.

"D. F. Burk," was the answer.

"What does he ask for it?"

The reply was always the same, "He won't sell."

And so it came to pass that the citizens of the classic city of Port Arthur builded their homes up to and around Mariday Park, the gem spot of the city's residential section. Likewise, it also came to pass that Daniel Francis Burk, consoled by the realization of his early dreams, finally acceded to the oft-expressed wish of the citizens, that the property should no longer impede the city's natural pathway of expansion. On 30th September, 1909, he transferred to the present owner and developer for a snug fortune a property that had cost him a comparatively paltry sum 30 years before.

#### *Designed to Meet a Civic Necessity*

It must be admitted that the phenomenal growth, in recent years, of all western towns and cities, has had a tendency to produce a rather build-as-you-please agreement between vendors and purchasers, and a consequent unsightly and undesirable out-cropping of "shack" homes. Perhaps, nowhere throughout the vast West can the curse of building restrictions in the residential area be more forcibly brought home than in the Twin Cities of Port Arthur and Fort William. After all, it can be said, that surroundings really make the home.

Designed and developed to satisfy the needs of the select homesite-seekers of Thunder Bay, Mariday Park presents a restricted, highly-developed homeland, for folks of artistic temperament and twentieth century ideas. It can be truthfully stated that the residents of Port Arthur and Fort William eagerly await the opportunity to make their selection.

When our Mariday Park property goes on the market, as in all our previous home offerings, the major portion of the property will be sold to Port Arthur people—the people who understand best local real estate conditions and values.

