

Saskatoon's Publicly Owned Utilities

Water Supply, Electric Light and Power, Street Railway, Parks, Public Library and Streets.

Saskatoon has the advantage over most of its prairie contemporaries in its unlimited pure water supply.

Situated as it is on both sides of the beautiful South Saskatchewan River, with its tree-lined banks, the city is very fortunate in that, as there is no town higher up the river for hundreds of miles to drain its sewerage into the stream, the water cannot be other than pure. Although the river water in its raw state is quite fit to drink, it is passed through sedimentation basins for filtering, in order that when it is drawn from the taps for domestic use it may be clear and sparkling.

The capacity of the pumps from the intake well is 4,000,000 gallons per day, with provision for doubling the capacity whenever the needs of the city require it. There are also direct acting pumps of 750,000 gallons per day for increasing the pressure in case of fire. The Saskatoon filtration and pumping plant is considered a model, and various engineering journals have published articles descriptive of it. It is electrically operating, with steam plant standby should the electric operation at any time fail. The quantity of water pumped during 1917 was 599,474,000 gallons; during 1918, 576,372,000 gallons, and during 1919, 756,083,000 gallons. The steadily increasing growth of the city is indicated by the above figures. There are 45.82 miles of water mains, 467 hydrants, and about 3,000 metered water connections.

The city's sewerage system consists of both sanitary and storm sewers, each being quite separate. With one exception, storm sewers have only been laid on streets where permanent pavements have been put down. There are 42.7 miles of sanitary sewers, and 5.4 miles of storm sewers.

SASKATOON'S PICTURESQUE SITE

The city's picturesque site on both sides of the broad and swiftly flowing river, with high wooded banks, appeals to the imagination and relieves the monotony sometimes associated with the level expanses of the prairie.

Considering future needs, the probable growth of the city and the necessity for suitable places of recreation, ample provision has been made for public parks. Seventeen parks, with a total area of 595.52 acres, have been provided for within the city limits. Central Park, which is the most central and the most frequented, is a delightful spot, occupying a site of 58.25 acres, and one side skirts the left bank of the river. In this park are a race track, an automobile driveway, bowling green, tennis courts and football ground. Trees, flowers and lawns, cared for by gardeners, enhance the natural beauty of wild growth which fringes the river. Along such paths it is indeed delightful to roam in the summer evenings. Wild flowers grow in profusion and the trees reach to the water's edge. In addition to the park acreage mentioned above, the city owns two parks, amounting to some 61 acres, outside the city limits, and has a 99-year lease at a nominal rental from the Dominion Government on an island situated in the South Saskatchewan River, about two miles south