

The city itself has wisely laid the foundation for a large centre, wide streets, broad walks, parks, squares, athletic grounds and municipal ownership of all public utilities, including the proposed street railway, are indications of capable self-government. The public buildings, the wholesale and bank buildings, which would compare favorably with those in large eastern centres, furnish evidence of the faith of the leaders of finance and commerce in the future.

You ask me what I thought of my purchase of lots in South Lethbridge Addition. As you are aware I bought these without seeing them and, when I went West I had the intention of trying to dispose of them at fifty per cent. profit. I have seen them, and decided not to sell for five years at least. I believe they will then be worth \$500 each. Local men told me this was a conservative estimate. Beyond doubt the South Lethbridge addition lies in the direction of residential growth. The river bars the west, the north will be a densely populated mining town, and the east is the manufacturing and railway district; the way to the south alone lies clear. I would think your lots a good buy at \$100 to \$125. The Whitney farm, just beyond your lots, is not for sale, \$600 an acre has been refused. The Chinaman who owns 21 acres just across the road makes \$400 an acre as a market garden, and of course he too refused \$600 an acre.

I have the idea that the North Lethbridge property will come into the market first as a mining town. An addition of 4,000 men as proposed means a large influx of population. But few properties are offered for sale. The coal companies will not sell their acreage. The A. R. and L., which has a large holding, absolutely refuses to sell a lot. Why? There is obviously only one answer possible. The consequence is that your North Lethbridge properties must soon be in demand. The Royal Collieries propose to establish a large plant close to No. 6, bringing the mine operators down to within a comparatively short distance of your property, which lies nearer in. Next year I fancy you will be sold out, and the holders find an active movement in these lots.

One can only realize the immense resources, wealth and possibilities of the West by seeing for oneself, and I have come back with unbounded faith in the future of Canada and the West in particular.

Yours faithfully,

C. J. MICKLE.

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Minister of Agriculture,  
Alberta.

Mr. F. McQueen,  
Chesley, Ont.

Dear Sir,—

Your favor to hand in which you ask me some opinions about the City of Lethbridge and its prospects. There is no question about the fact that Lethbridge is going to be one of the largest cities in the Province of Alberta. Its wealth of coal mining alone would be sufficient to make it a large and important business centre, but it is surrounded by a farming district that has already proven itself a producer of some of the best crops that have been grown in the Province. Railways are also making their way to Lethbridge, and it is bound to be a town of large commercial importance, and I have no hesitation in expressing the opinion that property in Lethbridge is bound to increase in value, and increase very largely. The growth of Lethbridge in the last three years has been almost phenomenal, and I have no hesitation in saying that it will grow more rapidly in the future. I am,

Yours very truly,

(Sgd.) DUNCAN MARSHALL.