

# Red Deer, Alberta's Largest Town, is Midway Between Edmonton and Calgary

Bulletin Staff Correspondence.

Red Deer, Nov. 1.—Red Deer is the largest town in the province of Alberta and the most important point in the long stretch of territory from Edmonton to Calgary. It lies exactly midway between the northern and southern metropolises. The town is most beautifully situated on the south bank of the Red Deer river in a broad flat bench of the river, bounded by the tree clad escarpment of the low plateau that forms the surrounding country. The town site really occupies an area in the shape of a vast segment of a circle the chord of which is formed by the Red Deer river and the area of which is the surrounding plateau, the edge and slope of which is picturesquely wooded with tall conical spruces in thick and extended groves, grey-barked poplars and cottonwoods which at this season of the year, in subdued tints of saffron and old gold are a unique and beautiful color contrast to the dark green of the spruces.

Red Deer are determined to be in the van. The building is a handsome structure of white brick on a massive foundation of cut stone. There are ten class rooms, private rooms for teachers, a library and a capacious assembly room. The lighting and the heating system are according to the latest improved inventions in these essentials. The building formerly used as a public school is a respectable brick structure with which it is the intention of the school board to remodel and improve for high school work next year.

## New Methodist Church.

A new Methodist church to cost \$35,000 is under construction. The foundations are completed. The provincial government have recently purchased an admirable site for the new church house opposite the public school on Ross street and the work will commence next spring and the

300 Roman Catholic convent will be among the new institutions in the town. The land has been purchased and set apart for this purpose.

C.P.R. Improvements. The most important expansion of the town this year is concerned with the improvements of the C. P. R. Red Deer is to be made a winter terminus. The town has given the C. P. R. an additional twenty acres which gives the company an area of fifty acres for yards and terminals. A new four-stall round house 100 feet by 70 feet has been erected this fall and is ready for use. A repair and machine shop with a full equipment of lathes, drills and other appliances is now in process of construction. The building will be a cement veneer. Estimates are prepared for a new station house which will be erected next year. Already the company have laid four miles of track. The town has agreed to supply the company with water.

Both the C. P. R. and the provincial government will build new steel bridges over the Red Deer river, new piers are already built for the steel superstructure. The provincial government will erect a steel bridge at the north end of Gaetz avenue which is estimated at \$25,000. The present traffic bridge over the river will be removed to a point on the river six miles away.

The town's industries. The industries of the town consist mainly of the manufacture of lumber, brick, carpenters' supplies and cement blocks for building or veneers. Two brick plants in operation have a combined three and three-quarter million bricks a season. R. C. Brumpton, of the Red Deer Brick company, stated that his is a considerable increase over the output of last year and further that before the building season closed his fall the whole output would be consumed.

The largest industry in the town is the Great West Lumber company with 100 men on the pay roll. The mill, which has a capacity of 65,000 board

feet per twenty hours, works night and day with two shifts of ten hours each, obtains the supply of logs from the timber lands up the river, from which they are floated in the spring to the mill. The cut this year amounted to 5,000,000 board feet. The company intend to take out a greater supply of logs next winter than was taken out last winter. The deep snow last winter reduced the output of logs. If the coming season should be a favorable one the lumber output of the Red Deer will be considerably increased above the five million mark.

Recently a saw and door factory has been established in the town by J. E. Bower. The factory employs from twelve to fifteen men and runs every day. All kinds of lumber are manufactured into dressed material for the local building trade as well as a growing outside trade. An extension was made to the building and the last summer that will increase its capacity about 25 per cent.

Red Deer Creamery. One of the largest and best equipped in Alberta, it was erected in 1901 and has since a flourishing institution ever since. The country surrounding the town is well stocked with dairy cows and the farmers have learned the value of the dairy industry when operated along scientific and successful lines. The creamery has been operated in winter as well as in the summer season.

The milling industry is represented by a flour mill that has a capacity of 150 barrels a day. A storage elevator is operated in connection with the mill. In addition there is a second elevator that handles grain of all kinds.

The town has all the modern conveniences of the cities and towns of the east in the way of water, sewerage, light, telephones and fire protection. A complete sewerage has been installed during the past season and is now in operation or ready for use.

It is significant to note that Red Deer is one of the very few towns or cities in the whole of Western Canada that has been able to sell their debentures. Not only was the town able to sell, but what is still more surprising, the debentures sold one per cent. above par. Financially, the town of Red Deer is second none in Western Canada.

The sewerage system cost \$35,000 and is in use in all the hotels, public buildings and a great number of the private residences of the town. Provision is being made by the town authorities to filter and disinfect the sewage to render it perfectly harmless before it finds its way into the river.

Water Absolutely Pure. The water comes from the mountain-fed river of the Red Deer, which affords a pure and inexhaustible supply. The intake is situated far up the river away from any danger of contamination. From the river it is led into filtration beds of gravel and cinders and conserved in large tanks, one of which is pumped from the power house to all parts of the town. One large tank contains the water for domestic use. A recent test made by Dr. Charlton, of Regina, the bacteriologist to the Saskatchewan government, designated the water as perfectly wholesome and "absolutely pure."

The town is lighted by electricity. A private corporation—the Western General Electric Company—installed a plant a few years ago which has been improved and equipped from time to time until at the present time the company has a completely modern equipment for the production of electricity for light, telephone and power purposes. A 500 h.p. Cross compound engine and 250 kilowatt generator have been added to the equipment this year at a cost of \$25,000. The central engine telephone system is in operation for local use in the town. House telephones cost \$10 per year, and business telephones \$25 per year. The town also has connection with the Bell long-distance line between Calgary and Edmonton.

Efficient Fire Protection. A complete equipment, with an engine and hose has been secured for efficient fire protection. A new fire hall was erected last year. The volunteer fire brigade, under the command of Chief Horace Meers, is among the best in the province, as was shown in the hose reel contest held in Calgary last 24th of May. The efficiency of the fire protection is evidenced by the favorable rate that has been paid by the insurance underwriters.

The possibilities of the Red Deer River as a source of power have never been exhausted. The river has a strong rapid current, the power of which, with no great engineering difficulty, could be harnessed and utilized. No town in the province has better physical advantages in this respect.

Memorial Hospital. The public gratitude and patriotism of the citizens is evidenced in the establishment of the Red Deer Memorial Hospital. This splendid institution was founded to commemorate the services and heroic deaths of three young men of Red Deer, who went to South Africa with the Strathcona Horse—Charles Cruikshank, Angus Jenkins and Archie McNicol. The hospital is loyally supported by the citizens and is under the able management of Miss Kingston. This year \$5,000 has been spent upon increased facilities and appliances for hospital accommodation.

Red Deer is the centre of one of the large judicial districts recently organized by the provincial government and will soon have a fine new Court House erected. The site, at a cost of \$5,000, has already been secured. It is also the centre for the Dominion Lands office and the registry office.

Growth of Town. The town was incorporated on June 20th, 1901, with a population of 600. Since that time it has steadily grown in population and in the value of assessable property, as the following figures indicate:

| Year. | Assessment  | Population | Rate |
|-------|-------------|------------|------|
| 1901  | \$ 175,000  | 600        | 14   |
| 1902  | 279,000     | 800        | 16   |
| 1903  | 360,000     | 1,000      | 18   |
| 1904  | 535,000     | 1,200      | 15   |
| 1905  | 812,000     | 1,500      | 18   |
| 1906  | 903,000     | 1,800      | 21   |
| 1907  | \$1,272,000 | 2,500      | 20   |

The bonded indebtedness of the town is only \$90,000. \$35,000 of this was incurred this year for the extension of the water and sewerage systems. The town has a tributary territory of 2,000 square miles. The country is well settled. Grain raising, cattle raising, dairying and the breeding of pure bred in a line of live stock form the mixed occupation of farmers in the district. Nowhere in the province, except around Lacrosse, are there so many herds of pure-bred cattle and eyne. Every one of the heavy bred breeds are represented, as well as the principal dairy breeds.

Red Deer has won a high place recently in the production of high grade steers. The first shipment of cattle from Alberta to top the market at Chicago were shipped a few weeks ago by Messrs. Root & Geisinger, of Red Deer. The natural grasses in this district must be seen to be appreciated. On the whole they grow to the height of from 12 to 24 inches and on the low

land, or about the sloughs, they often attain to the height of from five to seven feet. When cured they make wonderfully nutritious hay, and a man with much experience as a farmer in Iowa recently expressed himself as being "unable to understand how my brother's cattle up here, fed on wild hay and water only, and not specially protected with shelter, are in better condition in the spring than mine are at home, in Iowa, fed on timothy and clover hay, with corn, and well housed." Wild pea vine and vetch are generally found and in many places are of remarkable growth.

The district is rich in timber and coal and well supplied with fuel and water. There are also in the west numerous pure streams tributary to the Red Deer, such as the Havan, the Clearwater and the Medicine. Many smaller creeks also exist. Several beautiful lakes, also, are distributed east and west, amongst the largest of which may be mentioned Sylvan Lake, Burnt Lake and Pine Lake. These lakes are well stocked with fish.

In the west of the district a coal field of enormous area, and with water seams aggregating 95 feet in thickness of a high-class coal, has recently been discovered and reported upon by one of the Dominion Government geological surveyors. Another inexhaustible coal area exists 20 miles east of this town, where excellent coal is mined in open cuts, being used by the settlers, who obtain it at the mines for \$1.50 per ton and who also haul it into town during winter for sale. Further east, numerous outcrops of coal occur, in fact, this district is believed to be one vast coal field.

Excellent building stone is found outcropping along the banks of the river. The superficial layers are a soft sandstone, the underlying strata is a sand stone of fine quality, easily worked, and hardens with age and

## ARCHDUKE FERDINAND DYING.

Grand Duke of Tuscany Receives Last Sacrament.

Vienna, November 1.—It is reported from Salzburg, Austria, that Archduke Ferdinand the 4th, Grand Duke of Tuscany, is dying and has received the last sacraments. He is seventy years old and has been for some time suffering from a nervous ailment. In later years the Archduke became embittered by the conduct of his two eldest children, the former Crown Princess of Saxony, whose escapades made her notorious, and who recently married Enrico Toselli, and the Archduke Leopold, now known as Leopold Wolf-land, who gave up his position at the Austrian court to marry a Viennese actress, and who, after his divorce, was married yesterday in Switzerland to the daughter of a horse dealer. Both children have been informed of the hopeless condition of their father.

## WANTS WHISKY IN HIS GRAVE.

Connecticut Man Has It Placed Beside Coffin Awaiting His Death.

New Haven, Conn., Nov. 1.—Phineas G. Wright has had his grave reopened at Putnam to place a case of whisky beside the coffin, which has been in the grave more than a year awaiting Wright's occupancy. He is 75 years old. Several years ago Wright caused a granite block to be placed over the grave with his last carved on it. The cut of the whiskers did not please him and he caused the sculptor to trim the stone enough to conform to his hirsute appearance. The inscription below the name reads: "Going, but know not where."

Railway Men Strike in Mexico. Mexico City, November 1. — Not a wheel is moving on the Tapico division of the Mexican Central railway, all the operating force having worked



THE HANDSOME NEW BUILDING OF THE IMPERIAL BANK IN RED DEER.

but have not been invited to Salzburg.

See Second Dreyfus Affair. Paris, November 1.—The arrest of Eugénie Charles B. Ulmo, of the French navy, at Toulon yesterday on the charge of being a spy, and who later confessed to having abstracted a secret naval signal book and the naval cipher code, was followed today by the arrest at Vendôme of an officer named Barton, who is charged with negotiations with an agent of a foreign power for the sale of military secrets. The arrests are creating a great stir, and, as Ulmo is a Jew, the papers term his case a second Dreyfus affair. It appears that Ulmo offered certain documents to the minister of marine for \$30,000, saying that unless his offer was accepted he would sell them to a foreign power. On the interpretation regarding national defenses the house of deputies today practically

out yesterday. The men in the shops joined them. The strike was caused by a quarrel between a conductor, who is said to have been drinking, and the chief despatcher.

Canadian Painter Goes to Paris. London, November 1.—J. Colin Forbes, the well known Canadian artist, is visiting Paris, where he remains some time, as he has several commissions to paint portraits of several distinguished French people.

Among others he is to paint a portrait of the president of the republic, M. Fallières.

Miser Starved. Jamestown, N.D., Nov. 1.—Starvation exposure and exhaustion caused the death of John Mooney a wealthy but miserly landowner found dead yesterday on a foreign power. On the interpretation regarding national defenses the house of deputies today practically

unanimously voted confidence in the ministry.

Inadequate Fenders. Winnipeg, Nov. 1.—The coroner's jury in the case of Leslie Alexander Tait, aged twelve, killed by a street car, Saturday, found that Leslie Tait was killed by falling from a bicycle under the wheels of street car No. 246. In the opinion of the jury the city authorities are remiss in not ordering proper safety devices on all the cars, and "we are satisfied if car No. 246 had been equipped with proper wheel guards, Tait would not have been killed in the manner aforesaid."

Bourassa's Resignation Received. Ottawa, Nov. 1.—Speaker Sutherland, of the House of Commons, has received the resignation of Bourassa for the constituency of Labelle, in the Dominion parliament. The speaker has issued a warrant for a new election. There are now two vacancies for the Dominion. One is for Labelle and the other for Nicolet, caused by the resignation of C. R. Devlin, who has entered the Quebec government.

Appeal to Caesar. Forest City, S.D., Nov. 1.—With four troops of cavalry from Fort Des Moines, on the Cheyenne reservation, one stationed at the agency and the remainder moving westward slowly, all fear of trouble with the rebellious Indians has been allayed, and civilians sent to the relief of Capt. Dorn are returning. Indians in council have promised to cause no disturbance while representatives of the tribe are sent to Washington to lay their grievances before the president.

American Roads Canadian Excursions. St. Paul, Minn., November 1.—The railroads have agreed to make the rate of forty dollars for Canadian excursion business from December 1 to December 31, good for thirty days. The rate is good to Eastern Canadian points and from Eastern Canadian points and not from this side of the boundary line. It is expected the movement through this gate will be heavy.

MEAT COSTS LESS. Chicago, Nov. 1.—The general reduction in retail prices of meats is propounded for Chicago and the middle west. The first cut in packers' prices has been announced in Omaha where it was reported last night the Cudahy Co. had reduced prices on all meats 10 per cent. In explanation Cudahy said he believed the time had come for a general reduction in the cost of living if the average citizen is to share in the country's prosperity. "St. Louis City followed the cut today."

R. Jackson, of the firm of the Jackson Building Company, Winnipeg, was in the city today on business.

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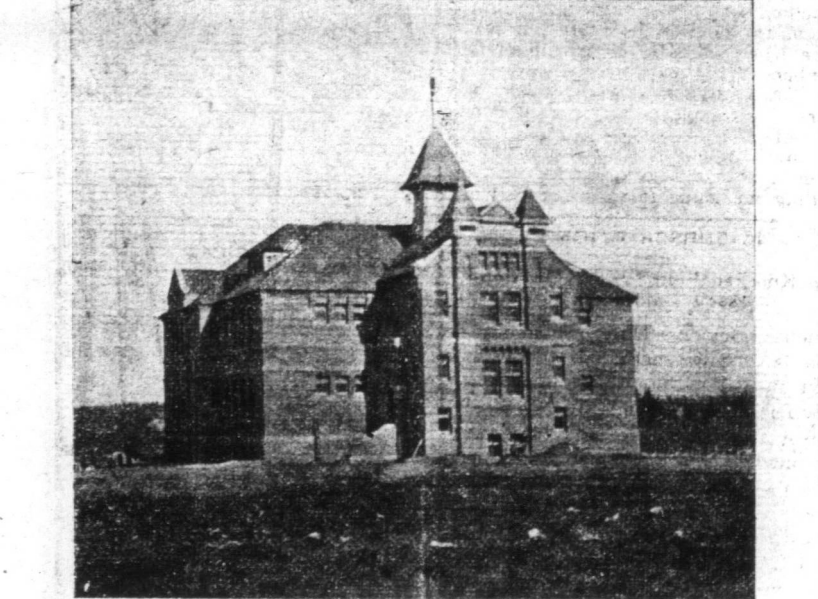
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NEW \$35,000 PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING AT RED DEER.

At the foot of the slope meanders the Waskasoo creek until it joins the Red Deer river a short distance below the town. Waskasoo is the Indian name for Red Deer, and illustrates the characteristic euphony of Indian orthography. Few towns or cities in Alberta or in the whole of Western Canada possess within the area of the town so many beautiful and secluded resorts for private residences or desirable sites for schools, churches and other public buildings. On the north bank of the river towards the northeast is a most desirable quarter for factory sites.

Town's Prosperity Reflected. The unexampled prosperity of the last few years has been abundantly reflected in the development and expansion of the town of Red Deer. There has been a satisfactory and steady growth in population and in the value of assessable property. Imposing and commodious business blocks have been added to the main thoroughfares.

building completed with all expedition. Red Deer is rapidly becoming a town of beautiful homes. This season has witnessed the addition of a large number of residences that give a distinctly urban and stable air to the growing town. Among the residences added this year, the largest and costliest is that of T. F. Ellis, proprietor of the Arlington hotel. He is building a red brick house on the corner of Douglas and Poplar avenues on the banks of the Waskasoo that will cost \$12,000 before it is completed. Other handsome residences have been erected by Julius McIntosh, Ald. W. H. Botterill, L. C. Palmer, Wm. Post, Al. H. Tabor, and the late Joseph M. Smith. Generally the observer is impressed with the taste and care which the citizens have exhibited in the improvement of their homes. Without exception every dwelling is handsomely painted, surrounded by trees and well kept garden.

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