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Standard Colony

Standard, Alberta

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A Booklet Issued By

Standard Colony Extension
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of Settlement Club**

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FOREWORD

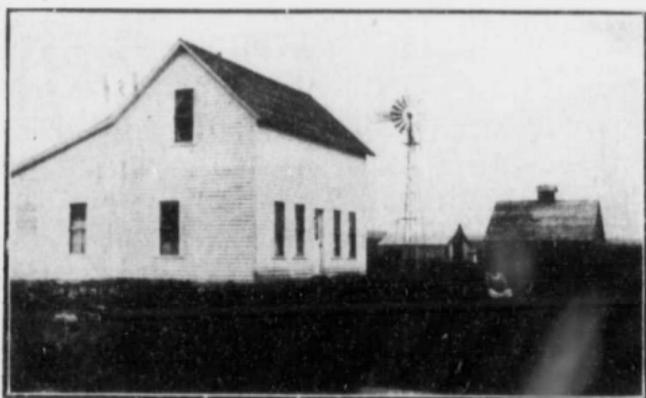


EALIZING the numerous advantages that will accrue to us from an increase of settlement in our immediate district, this club, including in its membership the large majority of the settlers now resident in the district, has been formed purely with the idea of placing before our friends some of the advantages of this particular section of Western Canada. This we hope to do by means of this booklet and personal correspondence, giving reliable information pertaining to the irrigable and other agricultural lands for which this district is becoming famous. We are thoroughly satisfied from investigation and experience gained in our own farming operations, extending with some of us over a period of five years, that our district affords the settler opportunities of as rich rewards as any that can be found in this great Province of Alberta, or on this Continent.

The lands adjoining our settlement are owned by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. It is true that this and other companies own large areas of irrigable and other agricultural lands in different portions of Alberta, which are open to settlement. Our friends, however, have the opportunity to benefit largely from the great amount of time and money spent,

and the trouble taken by individual members of this club, in investigating such lands before finally selecting this locality. New settlers may save that time and expense by coming direct to this district, when we are convinced they will think it unnecessary to go to the expense of investigating other parts of the country.

In the letters by our club members, each individual has endeavored so far as possible in the space at his disposal, to



Farm Home Near Standard District

give such a plain, exact, detailed statement of the results he has been able to obtain in his farming operations, that the reader, from these varied experiences, may gather an intelligent idea of what he should expect to accomplish.

The views shown are photographs taken in the district and along the irrigation system supplying the irrigable lands with water.

LOCATION

This district is located in that portion of the province familiarly known as "Sunny Southern Alberta." Our town of Standard, located on the railroad and almost in the centre of the district, is about fifty miles east of Calgary, the largest city between Winnipeg and the Pacific coast, and the best market for hogs, cat-



Type of House Built by C.P.R. in Standard District

tle and dairy products in the Province of Alberta. With this city we have direct railroad connection. Standard is one hundred and forty-five miles north of the international boundary. In order that the position of our settlement may be located at a glance, it has been plainly marked on the map attached herein.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

We have here what we believe to be ideal climatic conditions for the permanent health and happiness of the individual. The majority of the days are long and bright. The sun is warm, but as there is very little moisture in the atmosphere, it is always pleasant in the shade, and the nights are comfortably cool. The experience of the oldest settlers in the district is that the winters are agreeable, vastly more so than many



Settler's Home Near Standard

people in the United States, who have never visited Alberta, believe. While it is true that it sometimes gets cold, and that we have light snow-falls, these periods as a rule, are of short duration and are likely to be followed by weeks of mild warm weather, after a few days of which the snow entirely disappears. The following figures taken from the govern-

ment weather reports will show this in a convincing manner:

During the one hundred and fifty-one days in the months of November and December, 1913, and January, February and March, 1914, there were one hundred and four days in which the mid-day temperature at Calgary varied from 30 to 69 degrees above zero, forty days in which it ran to 29 degrees above, and only seven days in which it ran below, the lowest point registered being 19 degrees below.



View on Farm in Standard District

The average annual precipitation at Calgary for the past seventeen years has been 18.81 inches per annum.

SOIL AND CONTOUR OF LANDS

Most of the lands in the district are non-irrigable, but a portion to the south and west are irrigable. They are open prairie with no brush to be cleared, cov-

ered with a fine growth of native grass, and generally speaking lie in long gentle slopes, and are therefore easily worked. The soil varies from a dark to a chocolate colored loam, recognized everywhere as being the most productive soil of the country, underlain with a good clay sub-soil.

CROPS

The enormous yields of wheat, oats, barley and flax secured in Alberta are too well known to need emphasis here. They are all produced in abundance in this portion of the province, as are potatoes, garden truck of all kinds and small fruits.

It is conceded that alfalfa, timothy, clover, vetch, field-peas and sugar beets can be successfully produced on irrigable lands. Tests made with alfalfa in the last two or three years, where the ground was properly prepared and inoculated, have proved almost uniformly successful.

CATTLE AND HOGS

Being able to produce these forage and grain crops, with ease and in large quantities, undoubtedly we are to develop into one of the greatest cattle finishing districts on the Continent. Particularly so as there are adjacent to us great areas of grazing lands from which large numbers of feeders can be secured.

We claim a hog can be produced here as cheaply as at any other place on the continent. When you understand that hog diseases are practically unknown in Alberta, and take into consideration our excellent markets, you will readily realize the splendid profits we are able to secure from this industry. We have direct railway connections with Calgary, the great live stock market to the West, as well as with all markets to the South and East.



Threshing Scene, Standard District

FUEL

The question of fuel is always an important one, and in this we are particularly fortunate. A coal mine has been developed immediately adjoining the townsite of Standard, and within easy hauling distance of all settlers in the district. It is a high quality of lignite coal and can be purchased at the reasonable cost of \$3.00 per ton at the mine.

TERMS

Add to the foregoing advantages the unusual and heretofore unheard of terms upon which the Canadian Pacific Railway is offering lands adjacent to our settlement and you will come to a full understanding of why these farms are being rapidly taken up and our reasons for urging prompt action if you are to avail yourself of this opportunity. Twenty years to pay, with interest at six per cent. per annum on the unpaid principle. But the Company does not stop at this. You may select from various plans and specifications a house and barn most suited to your needs and they build these for you, up to a cost not to exceed two thousand dollars. The value of these improvements is then added to the list price of the land and all included under one agreement of sale, and paid under the twenty year plan.

To settlers in certain specified areas who have been one year in occupation of their land, who have the necessary feed and shelter and can satisfy the Superintendent of Agriculture and Animal Industry that they are possessed of practical experience in the care and handling of livestock, cattle, and in some cases, sheep, to a value not exceeding one thousand dollars, may be advanced under easy terms.

SCHOOLS

The school system in Alberta is equal

to any on the continent. Schools are organized and governed in very much the same manner as those in the United States. Owing to liberal government assistance the cost to the settler of maintaining the school is comparatively small. Each teacher employed must have certificate of a recognized standard of education and a thorough system of government inspection is maintained.



Children at Standard Public School

Several school districts have been organized and for some time school houses erected and in session. We now have a large number of children in attendance. Additional school districts will be established as our settlement extends.

TAXATION

Farmers who have been accustomed to the system of taxation in agricultural parts of the United States will be inter-

ested to know that in Alberta no taxes are charged against the farmer's improvements, live stock, machinery or personal effects. Taxation is simply on the land itself and the rate may be judged from some of the letters herewith, in which the settlers in the community have explained what their taxation charges have been. Every dollar saved on taxes is a dollar added to the profit of the farmer and a comparison of the rates here with those paid in other countries where high priced lands exist, is very much in our favor.

SETTLERS' LETTERS

Full personal information concerning this district and any of the conditions in which you may be interested will gladly be furnished by any member of the club, whose names appear below.

Standard,

December 12th, 1914.

I arrived here this spring from Norway. I got practically no crops, which was hardly to be expected on spring breaking, owing to the drought this year. I hold, however, a good opinion of the country as I saw those neighbors of mine who had their land in good shape getting excellent crops in spite of the unusual dry year. It was not uncommon to hear of 25 to 30 bushels of wheat to the acre.

It is a fertile country for mixed farming, the prairie grass offering rich pastures for the cattle.

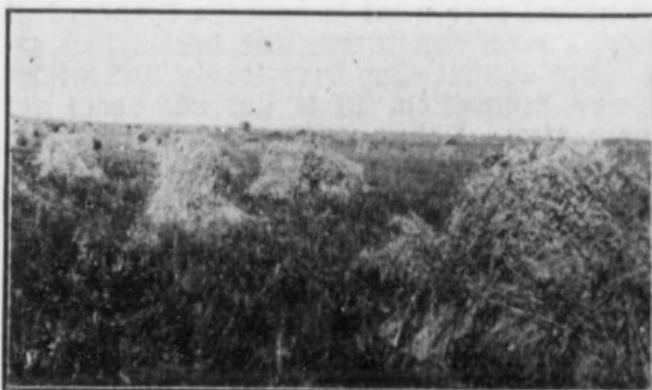
I have about 190 acres ready for next year and am very hopeful for the future.

(Sgd.) T. REED.

Standard,

December 6, 1914.

I came to Standard in the spring of 1911, after having lived in Elk Horn, Iowa, for 19 years. Originally I came from Varde in Denmark. The conditions were undeniably good in Iowa at the time of my arrival there, as very good land could then be bought from \$25.00 an acre up. Later, of course, the price has advanced and it is now worth from \$150.00 an acre up, and it is not very easy for a man without large capital to buy there. Still I will say the matter of land was not what forced me to look up another location, but the climatrical conditions. As is well known, the climate



Field of Oats, Standard Oats

is not of the best in Iowa. It gets very hot during the summer and at the same time the weather is very changeable. I stood it very well for the first years, but later it was hard on me.

I had a good friend in Alberta, and after considerable correspondence, he convinced me that a man could live in Canada without freezing to death, and in fact insisted that the winters were more comfortable than in Iowa, not to mention the summers. I then resolved to look it over for myself and made a trip up here in

February, the middle of the winter, and I must confess that my wife was afraid that I would come home with frozen hands and feet. It is true that I was never more surprised in my life than when I found, on my arrival at Calgary, that not only was the temperature milder than in Elk Horn, Iowa, but the air was lighter and better. I was told in addition that this sort of weather was usual, which I have since discovered to be true from my own experiences.

The next thing to do was to discover the right district to settle in, which is often not so easy. I visited my friend, but was not entirely satisfied with that district. After having investigated many places I joined one of the Canadian Pacific Railway's representatives and looked over what is now the Standard district. I must say it was the best I had ever seen, but at that time very lonely and without railway connection, so it did not seem very encouraging. I then went back to Elk Horn and talked things over with some of my neighbors, and we decided that some of them would accompany me and also look over the district, which they did, coming to the same conclusions I had reached. We then made up our minds that we would settle there, forming a small settlement, as the result of which we have today a large, fairly well settled, prosperous district.

So far as farming is concerned, I have not done a great deal of it since coming here, but I have seen so much that I know the man who works his soil properly gets big results, and I will add that mixed farming pays by far the best.

If anyone should want to know about chances for a man with only a little money, I will say that it has proved here, like other places, that those who came with only a small amount of money but were willing to start working and at the same time become acquainted with conditions, eventually were, on the average,, as successful as those with large amounts of

money, but it must be understood that money is needed to start farming.

Some people will probably want to know about the Government, the laws, etc. I will say the laws are good and must be strictly followed. The Government is fully as liberal as in the States. The taxes are very small.

In conclusion, I will say that nobody will ever regret coming to Canada, if they come to this district, and are willing to work and use good sense.

(Sgd.) J. R. H. MYRTHU.

Standard, Alta.,

December 5, 1914.

I cannot say that I have had very much ex-



Group of Settlers, Standard District

perience farming here in Canada as I have not been in the country long, but I have been here long enough to form an opinion about it.

I left Denmark in the spring of 1910, bound for America, and on the 4th of April, the same year, reached Racine, Wisconsin, U.S.A. For one year I visited this State and others, and then proceeded to Standard, Alberta, Canada. By the help of a family I knew, and who owned land here, I was able to rent a place. I am

farming 240 acres and, besides this, I have 160 acres fenced for pasture. My farmland is of excellent quality, black soil with clay sub-soil. At my home in Denmark we would call it first class soil.

The first year I had the biggest crop I have ever seen, but it was touched by frost. The reason for this was that I had not prepared my land very well and I started seeding too late. At the same time we had a little too much rain during the summer, which delayed the harvest. Since then I have had fine crops. My average returns have been wheat, 30 bushels, Oats 60 bushels and barley 55 bushels to the acre. The prices I have received this year are, wheat, \$1.02 per bushel; oats, 50c. per bushel; barley, 60c. per bushel. These prices are higher than what I got in 1913. I find, however, mixed farming to be better, I mean keeping stock. The last year I got 60 head of cattle and some pigs. These have brought me fair prices, and when we are able to get plenty of feed, as we have been here up to the present, I believe that mixed farming will be the best thing for the farmer.

The land I am farming cost \$15.00 per acre, and the other 160 cost \$12.00 per acre. The price, however, has gone up since this was bought. Our only expenses have been school taxes. For my 400 acres, last year, this was \$45.00.

The climate is fine and healthy, far better than in Denmark and the United States. I could write much more about these things, but space will not allow it. I am ready to answer fully anyone interested who will write to me.

(Signed) AXEL A. LARSEN.

Standard, Alberta, 12|5|14.

We came from Atchison, Kan., to Standard, Alberta, April 11th, 1914, and purchased 160 acres from the C. P. Ry. for \$11.00 per acre.

The C. P. Ry. built us a five-room house, a barn (28x32), and bored a well, which has 50 feet of good water in it at all times; the buildings are first class; the climate is very healthy (owing to the proximity to the Rocky Mts.), as the air is less humid than elsewhere. The soil is very fertile—in fact, it is superior to the \$100 per acre land in Kansas, where I lived and farmed for 50 years. As a grain growing country this district has no superior, provided the farmer handles and cultivates the soil properly and in a systematic manner. There are great



New Settler's Home, Standard District

possibilities here for the farmer who has the capital to raise hogs, cattle, and milch cows, as they can be raised here as cheap as anywhere. All livestock can do well on the range here during the winter, except a short time when the snow is too deep; then you have to feed them until this snows melts away, which is only a few days at a time. This applies to all stock except hogs. Cattle are fattened and marketed from the wild grass here. One party shipped 500 head of fat cattle from here last month; these steers averaged over 1,200 lbs.

each, and were shipped off the native grass in this vicinity. A special train (the C. P. Ry.) handled them. Calgary (50 miles west of here), furnishes an excellent market for all livestock and produce. Calgary has a population of about 85,000. All vegetables (and small fruits) do as well here or better than any place we know of. The long summer days are warm and ideal for the growth of all vegetation, and the nights are short and cool, making it an ideal summer resort—provided you wish to take advantage of it. The foregoing is based on experience and observations. We worked (this autumn) with two threshing machines and know what the farmers produced in the way of grain, etc.

One farmer in particular produced 23,000 bu. of grain in 1913, and 11,000 bu. in 1914. This same farmer was worth very little in 1912. This only proves what an energetic farmer can do. 1914 (this year) was a dry ('poor year') year for crops, but 1915 promises to be the best year for crops in Canada for the past 14 years, as the ground is "soaked" full of moisture—being covered with several inches of snow now.

The C. P. Ry. treat their farmers "right" too.
(Sgd.) J. W. KEATS.

Standard, Alta., Canada,

Dec. 12, 1914.

Having been here in Standard since August 1st, 1911, and having seen other successful farming districts in Alberta I can frankly say that this district looks better to me than the others I have seen. The climate up here is better than what the average American imagines, in fact I find the winters less severe than the Nebraska winters, and the summers more pleasant than the summers down there, as it never gets so hot, and the nights are always cool. There is almost no sickness up here

which should be proof in favor of a good climate.

The settlers here are mostly all from the States: Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Illinois, Dakota, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. All these farmers agree that we have a first class soil here. The prairies here grow the best grass I have ever seen, which shows that the soil must be good. The yields of wheat, oats and barley are much greater than those of central States.

This district should appeal to any one who



Farm Home, Standard District

is planning on settling down in a new country, and a man with \$2,000 who will exercise the same care and economy that all the successful early settlers of any other country have had to exercise, is bound to progress here.

(Sgd.) S. O. LARSON.

Standard, Alta.

Dec. 12th, 1914.

I have been resident in Standard since Nov. 1911, and I base my opinions upon what I have

observed since then of the agreeableness of the climate and the productivity of the soil. The climate here is less severe in the winter and more pleasant in the summer than in Minnesota or Dakota, where I lived before.

The land, when properly worked produces better crops of small grains than any I have ever seen in these States, and I think they are just as certain. Personally I have a great deal of confidence in this country and believe any one starting here now will do very well.

(Sgd.) J. L. LAWRENCE.

Standard,

December 9th, 1914.

Dear Sir:

Knowing that this letter is intended for publication, I have been very careful not to exaggerate in any way; for though I am fully aware of the benefit that will accrue from getting additional settlers into this district, I should not wish to make myself liable to any blame from unsatisfied people.

I am not a farmer, but as a businessman in Standard and well acquainted with the financial conditions of the farmers, I believe myself able to express a well founded opinion as to the merit of Standard district as a farm country. I may then state that though the last couple of years by no means have been record years in our history, I have experienced no difficulty in getting my outstanding accounts paid, and it is my conviction that a man who does not try to handle more land than he is able to, and who has got a little to start with, will make no mistake in coming into our territory, and considering the terms under which the land is offered for sale by the railroad company, I believe it to be considerably easier for a man to start here than any other place.

(Sgd.) ANTHON M. RASMUSSEN.

Standard, Alta.,

Dec. 12, 1914.

I came from Axtell Marshall Co., Ks., to Standard, Alta., March 16th of this year. But I can say so far I like it fine. I have 90 acres broke and prepared for the coming year. I had twelve acres of oats in on sod broke in May which I sowed to oats the 4th of June, which is late to sow oats. But still it made fine crop, some of it stood higher than my waist. I raised potatoes and other garden truck on my sod and everything done fine. We had a very dry summer, but still I'm pleased with chances of getting a good crop if you farm your ground



Grain in Shock, Standard District

in good shape. The sod breaks hard, so one must have strong horses and a good plow.

The summer was fine and so far the winter has been fine, with plenty of moisture in the ground for the coming year. My horses and cows have done fine since I came up here they are in better shape than I ever had them.

(Sgd.) A. C. LIND.

Standard, Alta.,

Dec. 15, 1914.

I made a trip of investigation to Alberta in

the spring of 1909, and after looking over different districts, finally purchased a half-section, mostly irrigable, about four miles from the present town of Standard. In 1910 I broke part of this farm and since then have gradually been getting the whole place in shape. This year on 10 acres which I had thoroughly irrigated I got $62\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of wheat per acre, and on 126 acres had an average yield of $38\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of wheat per acre. Of other grains I had good fair yields.

From my experiences since I have been here I know that any man who works his land properly and follows good farming methods will meet with great success and make money. I will be glad to answer any questions which may be asked of me in detail.

(Sgd.) J. B. JOHANNSEN.

Rosebud, Alta., Canada,

December 12th, 1914.

Knowing that this is for publication I shall not write anything that may cause anyone to think too much of this section of Alberta before coming. Of course I realize that what one person may like, in regard to climatical conditions, another may not, so I will give my opinion of this section.

I came to Alberta in the spring of 1911, and I may say that I have experienced all kinds of weather since then. About 38 degrees below zero is the coldest my thermometer has registered since I came here, but the greater portion of the winters are not as bad as most people think, who have never experienced such weather.

So far as I have observed we do not have a great deal of snow during the winter in this part of the country. The summers are very changeable. I have seen an inch or two of snow in May and also early in the fall. But these snows generally come at night and only last a few hours when the sun comes out. They

do no damage to the growing crop whatever.

I think this country has a great future as a farming district, and in the past has been one of the greatest stock raising sections in the world. My neighbor has over 5,000 head of cattle at present and there are many herds ranging from 500 up within a few miles of here.

We have various kinds of soil here, but I believe the larger portion if not all of it is especially good for small grain raising. In 1912 I raised 78 bu. of oats to the acre, by measure, that weighed 46 lbs. per bus. I have raised as high as 37 bu. of wheat per acre and 66 bu. of barley.

All kinds of livestock do well in this country, and I advocate mixed farming. As I have sold fat hogs for as much as 9½c. per lb. on foot in the stockyards at Calgary, which is, no doubt, an excellent price. Of course prices have been down as low as 5½c. on foot.

Calgary is the largest city in the west and is located about 50 miles west of here.

There are many coal mines in this country, and we can get coal from \$2.50 per ton to \$3.00 per ton at the coal mine. I have about 900 acres under cultivation and have 3½ sections fenced. This is a very healthy country and there is but very little sickness. We have no timber very close, but can get plenty of lumber within a few miles, at any small town. Cedar posts cost around 12c. each, lumber from \$18 to \$30 per 1,000 feet.

We can live as cheap here as any place that I have ever been. This is an excellent country for raising potatoes and all kinds of vegetables.

In conclusion, I will say that I am willing to answer any questions that any one may ask about this country. Of course I can only give my own opinion as an answer, but I do not wish to mislead any one.

(Sgd.) W. W. BOLICK.

Standard, Alberta, Canada,
December 5th, 1914.

After having farmed 12 years in Iowa, U.S.A., I came to Canada in 1911. I had already bought 240 acres at Standard, Alberta, in the fall of 1910. I brought with me machinery, etc., from U.S.A.

barley to an acre as an average. I get well paid for all I have to sell, and I never have any trouble in finding markets for all my produce.

I have been very successful in growing strawberries and find the conditions excellent for this industry, and I have been very successful with potatoes.



Here in Standard I have gone in for mixed farming and have cultivated 180 acres and produce all the feed I need for my stock. I have 60 head of cattle, 75 pigs, 10 horses, and several chickens. I use all I produce in the field for feeding my stock. I find that if a man farms in the right way the soil is excellent and gives very good returns. I have produced up to 55 bushels of oats to an acre and 27 bushels of

I found water at 122 feet and have plenty of it.

Generally speaking, I am very well satisfied by living here in Standard, and I know that if a man who understands how to farm, comes here to Standard and goes in for mixed farming he is bound to succeed.

(Sgd.) CHRIS. DAM.

Standard, Alberta, Canada,
December 5, 1914.

I left Lindkjobing, Denmark, 24 years ago and went to U. S. A. I have been in Iowa for twenty years, and left the States because I could get cheaper land in Standard, Alberta. I bought 320 acres here on the Canadian Pacific Railway Company's twenty-year instalment plan.

I am carrying on mixed farming, and have 12 milch cows, 18 cattle, 10 pigs, 13 head of horses, chickens and ducks. I feed all my stock from my own crops and in addition sell quite a lot of grain. I have 270 acres broken and produce on the average 35 bushels of wheat to the acre. I find that for a man with a family the surest thing is to go in for mixed farming in order that he shall not be depending on one thing only.

The climate is excellent, and I think everyone here is of the same opinion. We have a very fine heavy black soil which gives abundant returns. The taxes don't hurt us any. There is probably no place that has the advantage of us in this respect. I paid last year for my two quarter-sections \$4.50, and then altogether for school taxes \$40.00.

A man must be a good experienced farmer to farm in the right way here as well as anywhere else. In a general way both my wife and I are very well pleased to be living here in Standard.

(Sgd.) JENS PETER NELSON.

Standard, Alberta, Canada,
December 5th, 1914.

I was one of a party that went to Standard, Alberta, in 1909. I at once bought 160 acres. Now, in all, I have 400 acres, as I have from time to time bought additional land. I have 265 acres broken and cultivated, am carrying on mixed farming, and have 60 cattle, 18 pigs, and 10 head of horses.

Besides feeding all my stock out of the crops

raised, I sell quite a good deal, mostly wheat and barley. I find it pays very well to produce barley and wheat here, and I find that the soil is well suited for raising these kinds of grain.

I have been shipping some cream to Calgary and churning butter for the same market, both ways bringing very good returns. Vegetables can be raised here with as good results as in other places.

The true reason why I left Iowa, U.S.A., was on account of my wife's health, and as a proof of the fine climate here I will state that my wife has been feeling very well ever since coming here to Standard.

(Sgd.) T. L. ANDERSON.

Standard, Alberta, Canada,

December 5th, 1914.

Five years ago I came to Standard from Iowa. I had been one of the pioneers in Kansas as I went to that state in 1882 from Tisted in Denmark and remained there for 25 years.

I was one of a party of 28 that bought land in August, 1909, and I have never regretted it. I have 160 acres of my own with 100 acres cultivated, and besides this I rent another 160 acres. I am following mixed farming and have 10 milch cows, 21 cattle, 20 pigs, 6 horses and some chickens. I always have enough feed for my stock and in addition to that sell a considerable amount of grain. I have gotten 90 bushels of oats per acre, 37 bushels of wheat, 42 bushels of barley. I find the soil very fine for raising grain and for potatoes it cannot be beaten. I have sold April pigs in the following October weighing 260 pounds, at only six months old. From this you will see that we certainly can raise pigs with great profit. My wife says that the chickens pay the whole grocery bill, and, besides that, we use all the eggs we want in the house. I am getting bigger and fatter every year, which is on account of the excellent climate. We all like both the sum-

mers and winters. I believe that the soil here is especially good for raising grain.

I must not forget to mention the fine opportunity we have to get good coal here cheap and within easy hauling distance. The mine is right by the town and we pay \$3.00 per ton. We haven't much to pay in taxes. I don't pay on anything of my own except the land, and for this I pay \$2.25 for the year. I have a good well right outside the house on which I use a small motor pump.

I have an easy market for all the stock I want to sell. I can either ship it to Calgary or some other market, or the buyer comes direct to me and buys whatever I want to sell at market prices.

We use a lot of cream and churn all our own butter, but still I have sold \$300.00 worth of cream between March 1st and December 1st this year.

I will say, as my wife says, we like it here and are well satisfied with everything, and would not want to leave Standard, even if we could.

(Signed) NELS JENSEN.

Standard, Alberta, Canada,

December 4th, 1914.

I came to Gleichen, Canada, in 1906. The first four years I did breaking of prairie on contract for people who wanted their land put into cultivation, and I made very good money. In the spring of 1910 I bought a farm in Gleichen of 750 acres all broken. This farm I had four years. On it I tried specially grain raising, but I was not fully satisfied with this so I sold it in 1913. Then I bought a farm here in Standard from the Canadian Pacific Railway Company on its fair twenty-year installment plan. One of the greatest benefits of this plan is that after five years I can, if I want to pay up the whole amount and thereby stop the interest. I now have 320 acres, and a partner of mine has

320 acres. Together we have, in addition, rented 1,440 acres. On our own farms we are going in for mixed farming and feeding all we produce to the stock. I have 24 cattle, 180 pigs, 25 horses and lots of chickens. We find mixed farming, where we can feed all we produce to the stock to be the best way here.

The 1,440 acres we have rented we are going to raise wheat on. We get \$3.50 per acre for breaking this, and as rent shall pay one-third of the crop each year to the owner.

I have plenty of water. Spring water in the barn and outside; and next year I am going to install water pipes in the kithen and the garden. I get the water from a well 20 feet deep, just above the house and barn.



Cutting Wheat, Standard District

My experience is that it pays to keep milch cows as I get a very good price for butter.

The climate here suits me so well that I don't think any better can be found.

The soil I find to be very rich.

After my visit to the old country last year I find general living conditions to be better and cheaper here.

In regard to taxes in this country I will say we get away very easy. I dont pay any taxes on the machinery, the stock or my personal

property. I only pay taxes on the land itself, and my whole tax last year was only \$4.80.

In conclusion I will say that both my wife and I are very well pleased to be living in Canada and especially in Standard.

(Signed) CHRISTIAN ANDERSON.

Standard, Alberta, Canada,

December 5th, 1914.

Together with my brother, Chris. Dam, I came to Standard from Iowa, U. S. A., in 1911 and bought 160 acres, of which I have cultivated 120 acres, using the rest for pasture.

I went in for mixed farming and have 13 cattle, 75 pigs, 7 horses, and chickens. All cattle and pigs I feed for the market and find it pays well. I feed all crops to the stock and all milk, excepting what is used in the house, to the calves.

I left the U. S. A. because I found that working land worth \$150.00 an acre was not good business when here in Standard I could get fully as good land that would produce, on the average, more oats and barley to the acre than the high-priced land, for from \$18.00 to \$20.00 an acre. For that reason I thought Standard the best place to farm.

I like the climate and general conditions here well and feel fine.

The taxes on my whole farm are only \$4.00 per year.

I don't think it will be possible to find many places with a better opportunity to get cheap coal. We have a coal mine right in Standard and pay only \$3.00 a ton.

(Signed) EMIL DAM.

Standard, Alberta, Canada.

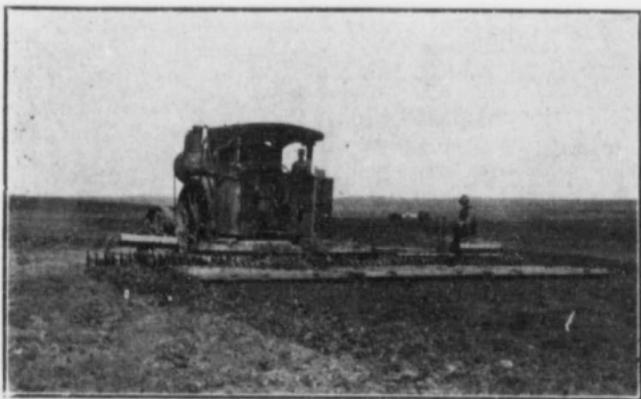
December 12th 1914.

I made my first trip into this district from Iowa in 1909 at which time it was all raw prairie. There were other friends with me and

we thought so well of the land that we each bought a quarter section.

I have been farming here since 1910, and my experience during that time has convinced me that we have as good prospects, or even better, for the future as any other place, as the land is not so high priced, and when well worked produces big crops even in dry years.

This last year I saw many places where the wheat went as high as 26 bushels per acre. In the year 1913 some wheat on well worked land ran from 30 to 35 bushels per acre, and in some instances up as high as 40 bushels. A farmer, living 12 miles south of here, last year



Traction Farming, Standard District

raised 36 bushels per acre of wheat on 200 acres. This land has been well worked for some time. The same man had oats running 100 bushels to the acre, and still I am of the opinion that we have better soil tributary to Standard than they have further south, but it requires good cultivation.

I have every faith in this part of the province, and believe that success awaits the man who will farm intelligently and go in for mixed farming. How much better it is to buy a piece of land under terms of twenty yearly payments than to pay a high cash rent for land, as they

do in Iowa, where it is absolutely impossible for a man to do more than earn a living for himself and family under conditions prevailing there.

There is still land for sale in the vicinity of Standard, but I would advise anyone who intends to settle here to come at the earliest possible time, as people are streaming in here from every part of the world.

As far as the climate is concerned, there is none better.

Should anyone be interested in getting further information I will be glad to answer inquiries.

(Signed) JENS RASMUSSEN.

Standard, Alberta, Canada.

December 5th, 1914.

I came to America from Denmark about 16 years ago and landed in Illinois, where I remained for three years. From there I went to the state of Washington in hopes of finding good cheap land so that I could commence farming, but the prices seemed entirely too high for me, considering the quality of the soil. After a while I got some literature regarding the great prairie lands of Western Canada, which could either be taken up as a homestead or could be bought at low prices under very easy terms from the Canadian Pacific Railway. In the summer of 1903 I went to Alberta, and after having located land, settled on a homestead three miles northeast from Markerville, Alberta. This district is well adapted to dairy-ing and mixed farming, but crops are not sure on account of night frosts in the summer, when the grain is ripening. After having been there for a few years I moved to the southern part of Alberta and settled four years ago near the town of Standard.

After four years experience I find that the Standard district is well adapted to the growing of wheat, oats, barley, roots and vegetables,

but it is necessary to work the ground well, and it must be farmed under the method generally known as dry farming methods. I have 300 acres under cultivation, of which I crop 200 acres and summer fallow 100 acres each year. I submit herewith a list of my crops for three years:

1912, oats on new land,	76	bushels to the acre.
1913, wheat on new land,	36	" " "
1913, oats on new land,	71	" " "
1913, oats stubbed in,	18	" " "
1914, wheat on new land,	20	" " "
1914, oats on new break-		

ing, 6 " " "

By new land I mean prairie ploughed and



Flax Field, Standard District

worked well the previous year. This district is also well adopted for mixed farming, and I would advise every beginner in the west to commence with that kind of farming, as he will then have some income to keep things going while he gets his ground ready for crop.

Anyone wishing any further information regarding the Standard district may write me, and I will be glad to furnish same.

(Signed) N. P. NELSON.

Standard, Alberta, Canada,

December 5th, 1914.

In 1908 I left Denmark for the great promised land, America, as a young emigrant. My first stop was in Ontario, Canada, but after I had become acquainted with conditions there I decided that it was not the place for me. It is an old settled district with high priced land and small wages. They told me that Western Canada was a good place for an energetic young man, but I did not heed their advice and decided to try my luck first in Iowa. I must admire what my countrymen have done there. They arrived when the raw prairie was sold from \$8.00 to \$10.00 an acre, and had no idea at that time that it would eventually be worth from \$100.00 to \$200.00 an acre, as it is now, particularly so as they had many disadvantages to overcome, such as hail, frost, heat and dry winds. The locust also caused great crop losses, as they often came in such swarms that they simply devoured everything, which is something that is entirely unknown with us here. I stayed in Iowa for two years and then commenced to think about starting for myself. First I tried the woods in Wisconsin, but after having spent a winter there among the pine stumps I could readily see that it would take a long time to make a farm there, although many of my countrymen had accomplished a great deal in that district where they had to clear the land foot by foot of trees and stones before they could work it. To do this takes a stiff back, and to begin with the profits are small. I then decided to visit the district at Standard, Alberta, and here I found my home. This was in the spring of 1911. Three and a half years have passed since I settled here, at which time the country was simply a range for cattle and horses, which fattened on the wild prairie grass. The Railway Company has now built a line through the district which is of great importance to the settlers and business people now flowing in here from all corn-

ers of the world to make homes in Canada's last best West. The majority of them are well pleased. Our form of government is the best and protects everybody. The climate is excellent with clear pure air. The summer days are long and warm with cool nights. The sun in the winter time has great power, which makes it so pleasant that I really prefer the winters here to the winters in the east with its damp raw air. As is well known, Alberta raises the best of horses and cattle, which is proof of the fine, nutritious, although short grass.

Wheat, oats and barley make good crops



Horses on Open Range, Standard District

here, and on ground that is well prepared wheat goes as high as 30 to 40 bushels to the acre. When I compare Canadian conditions with those in the middle western states thirty years ago when they commenced to settle, then I realize that we are far ahead with the present day's modern machinery, railway connections, etc.

I consider the Canadian Pacific Railway Company a safe concern to buy land from. The terms are easy and they are always ready to extend every help to the farmer.

(Signed) OTTO B. BURKWALD.

Standard, Alberta,

December 12th, 1914.

While the soil in this country will produce large crops, do not get the idea that everything sown will make a good crop, if the ground is not properly prepared. Last spring I broke, disced, and harrowed and seeded 20 acres in wheat, and 40 acres in oats, but owing to the dry season had a short crop. At the same time I saw some of my neighbors get as high as 28 and 30 bushels of wheat per acre on exactly the same kind of land, which had been properly worked up and prepared the fall before. This proved to me that if our soil is worked right we will get good returns even in dry years.

The best evidence of my confidence in this soil is the fact that I am now negotiating for the next quarter joining me which I will prepare next summer, and will also get cattle to go into mixed farming, which is the sure way to make money in this country.

(Sgd.) A. FANDRY.

Standard, Alta.,

Dec. 21, 1914.

We arrived in Standard, Alta., March 2nd, 1914. Climate was fine for that time, only a cold day now and then. We purchased 916 acres. Think this district all right for grain growing, if properly handled. Stock of all kinds do fine here. Horses still on the range making their living regardless of snow. Soil runs from a light to dark chocolate and seems to be deep and strong.

STANLEY & SHAW.

Standard, Alta.,

Dec. 21, 1914.

In giving my opinion of this country will say: I came to this country in 1913 (Sept. 19), bought 156 acres of land from the C. P. R. at \$14.00 per acre.

I am well satisfied with the country, the climate and the crop producing soil. The latter is of a black loom, which I don't think can be beat any place in the world, if properly handled.

I have 70 acres of sod broke for a crop next year. I notice that men who know how to summer fallow in this country are making the big money.

This proves to me that we can depend on the soil for farming purposes.

The C. P. R. have done much more for their patrons than they promised, at least they have done so with me.

As to stock raising, I have lived all over the western States and I have not seen anything that beats this for stock raising or dairy farming, and hogs are easily raised and put on the market. When I say a man can put up hay that makes good feed any time of the year that the ground is not covered with snow, that alone would give the country a good name.

As for my part I am well pleased here, and I intend to stay.

Enclosed you will find pictures of my house, and gasolene engine, breaking the sod in Alta.

(Sgd.) LEE DIXON.

Standard, Alberta, Canada,

December 18, 1914.

I left Elk Horn, Iowa, in the spring of 1910, April 14th, and came out here on the prairie where there wasn't a fence or any land broken for many miles around. Now we have a railroad here and a nice busy little town with a coal mine right in it.

I had 32 bushels of wheat, 43 of barley and 60 of oats to an acre on newly broken land. It will be better as soon as the soil is thoroughly cultivated. You ought to take up mixed farming here, like horse raising, milch cows, hogs and poultry. As a rule we get good prices for all produce.

We have a good climate and I prefer it to Iowa. In the summer we don't have any hot weather and the nights are cool. This is good for grain raising. The winter is generally mild.

I have paid \$26.00 this year as school tax on my 240 acres.

You can buy land here from the Canadian Pacific Railway on instalments that any man who is not afraid of work can meet and get a home of his own.

H. A. RASMUSSEN.

Standard, Alberta, Canada.

December 22, 1914.

In the spring of 1910 I arrived in Montana, U. S. A., from Denmark, and worked both irrigated and non-irrigated land there for a year and a half. I travelled round a good deal in that state and in Idaho and Utah, looking for a place to start farming for myself. Then I heard about the district around Standard, Alberta, and came here on the 3rd of October, 1911, then selected and bought 160 acres on terms of ten annual installments, two and a half miles from town. It lays high and has black soil, easy to work. In 1912 I broke 65 acres, and in 1913 this brought me a return of 35 bushels of wheat and 70 bushels of oats to the acre. This speaks for itself. The land I bought was non-irrigated and I am very well satisfied with it.

In the three years I have been farming here the soil has returned fine crops every year, when it has been properly worked. The land must be well worked, as is always the case with raw land, but nothing pays better.

Milk cows, hogs and poultry pay well here. In spite of the cold midwinter the horses and cattle run out in the open all the winter through. Our climate is fine and healthy.

The conditions on which land can be bought here are exceptionally easy.

We have good roads, good train connections

and everything else to prove that we live in a civilized country.

My taxes up to date have been \$4.00 per year.

I can, and will, with good conscience, urge everybody who thinks of making a home in Canada to come direct to Standard, Alberta.

(Sgd.) Jorgen L. Pedersen.

Redland, Alta.,

December 23, 1914.

I came to Alberta from Pittsburgh, Pa., July, 1914, settling on 134 acres of land located in Rosebud district which I purchased from the C. P. R. Company the year previous.

The climate has favorably impressed me, especially the ideal winter weather. Do not think you could find a healthier place. Have seen some enormous crops from here.

As for stock raising I feel safe in stating that this is the greatest country on earth. Would be glad to give any information to any person interested.

(Sgd.) A. T. GETTY,

Redland, Alberta,

December 24, 1914.

I bought 291½ acres from the C. P. R. and arrived here from Illinois the 26th of last March. On account of a great deal of other work that is necessary to be done on a new place I got my crop in a little late, but done very well for the first year. I planted 3½ bushels of potatoes the third week in May and raised about 80 bushels as fine as I ever saw. Some weighing as much as 2 pounds 6 ounces, while I have not raised any bumper crops yet I positively know that it can be done. I bought my seed oats last spring from a farmer that raised about 13,000 bushels on 160 acres, and tested 51 pounds to the bushel. We did not have the rainfall the past season that usually comes here, but in spite of this fact I know

of several fields of wheat going over 30 bushels per acre. Stock of all kinds do well here. There is about 100 range horses running near my place as fat as seals, and I doubt if they ever ate a bite of grain in their lives or saw the inside of a shelter, my own horses have run out every day so far this winter and have not been given a bite of any kind except when up for a day or two at a time to work, and they are rolling fat. It is an established fact that this country can deliver the goods. No guess-work about it. I have lived in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and So. Dakota and like this climate best of all as far as I have seen it, and I think a man with limited means can make a start here better than any place I ever saw. We are all Yankees out in this neighborhood, and there is still some good vacant land not far away that I would like to see some good States people on, and would be glad to assist them to any further information they might want.

(Sgd.) R. A. DYSON.

Standard, Alberta,

December 20th, 1914.

Four years ago I came to the Standard district in Alberta from Illinois. I purchased 160 acres of land and later rented 160 acres besides. I have 230 acres under cultivation and 90 acres in pasture. I am of the opinion that this is a first class farming district; it has several times been proved that the value of one year's crop is equal to the value of the land.

In the year of 1913 I raised 25 bushel wheat, 35 bushel barley and 50 bushel oats per acre. I prefer straight grain growing, with just enough stock to eat the straw. I raise more oats than wheat and barley, as I think oatstraw makes better feed for the cattle. I am milking a few cows and selling the cream to a creamery in Calgary. We always have a good market there, and it is a sure monthly income. It seems to me, that cattle are doing very well

in this country, they prefer to be outside every day all winter.

I never had any more hogs than for my own meat supply because I am not prepared for hogs, and I have not got any time to take care of them, as I am doing all the work on the farm myself without any hired help, otherwise I believe that a man can do well by feeding his grain to hogs, if he is prepared for them and has a good hoghouse, hog pasture and grinding outfit. The climate I think is very healthy. I never had any sickness troubles since I came here.

I believe that a farmer with a sufficient amount of money for starting can do better here than mostly any other place.

(Sgd.) GUNNAR NORTOFT.

Standard, Alta.,

December 21, 1914.

I arrived in Standard, Alta., nearly three years ago and settled on a quarter-section of land, which I had previously purchased from the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

This district is well adapted for exclusive grain growing, but although a good many are making a success of growing grain and selling it direct to the elevator, I would especially recommend mixed farming. We have a good market for live stock and other farm products, and can dispose of it at a fair price, so any one going in for mixed farming will be well paid for the additional work involved.

The land is fertile, and my experience is that if you are fair to the soil and work it properly and in due season, the soil will be fair to you.

The climate is healthy and invigorating with abundance of sunshine.

We have an elevator in Standard, stockyard, and coal mine, together with the general stores. From my personal experience let me say this: that the C. P. R. Company have always treated

me fair in every respect. I think I am safe in saying that the Company want their settlers to make good, and will assist them in doing so.

I shall be pleased, at any time, to answer any letter addressed to me, either in the English or the Danish language, from any prospective buyer, and promise you that it shall be answered promptly and truthfully to the best of my knowledge.

(Sgd.) HANS. P. MADSEN.

Standard, Alberta,

December 12th, 1914.

Nine years ago we arrived in this district from Montana, coming in a prairie schooner, with practically nothing to start on. We liked the country and climate and saw excellent opportunities ahead for those people who were not afraid of a little work. Up till a few years ago we did chiefly team work, such as grading, etc. Having worked up a good start we were able to go into the livery business, in which we are still engaged. In the midst of this excellent farming community the village of Standard is growing well, and will in the near future make a fine trading place for the farmers and also serve them as a good shipping point.

After years of this western life we feel safe in recommending the country to prospective settlers, and would be pleased to be able to advise any farmers intending to locate in this district.

(Sgd.) AUGUST JENSEN.

Standard, Alta.,

December 5, 1914.

We came here from So. Dakota in April, 1911, and built on the half-section we had purchased the year previous, and have now 260 acres under cultivation. We have made steady progress with both wheat growing and stock raising. Milk cows do very well and the climate is very favorable for dairying. We have a

heavy rich soil, and winters here are not as hard as in South Dakota.

We believe this country has a great future and that mixed farming coupled with a reasonable amount of grain growing will be a profitable investment.

(Sgd.) DAHL BROS.
Per Chris P. Dahl.

Standard,

December 21, 1914.

I came to Alberta from the State of Nebraska in the spring of 1912 and settled on a half-section of land two miles and a-half from Standard. I must say that after residing here close to three years, I am well satisfied with the country, and know that a man can do well here and be independent, if he has some capital to start with, and will adopt the proper methods of farming. The land is very fertile, and the climate is good—as a fact I prefer it to Nebraska climate. Have seen some record crops of grain here, and stock of all descriptions do well here with very little care.

Another thing in favor of this country is that taxes are yet very low.

(Sgd.) JACOB CHRISTENSEN.

Standard, Alberta,

December, 1914.

I hereby give briefly my opinion regarding Alberta, and particularly the Standard district.

I came here from Denmark five years ago and after having been here one year I purchased a quarter-section of land. The climate is healthful and bracing. The soil is excellent for grain and roots, and there is a splendid range for horses and cattle and a number of natural springs. The taxes have not, so far, been large, running from \$15.00 to \$20.00 per quarter-section.

There is still considerable land for sale in

district and good opportunities and a bright future for new settlers with some money.

(Sgd.) M. R. SCHIODTE.

Standard, Alberta, Canada,

December, 30, 1914.

In this Province we have the proper conditions for producing great crops of wheat. The soil is immensely rich and the climate conditions are such as to produce splendid results both in regard to quality and quantity, and puts us in the front rank of wheat producing countries.

Flax, barley, oats and potatoes also give large and sure crops, but taking into consideration the world's market at the present time, wheat leads them all.

Alfalfa and other kinds of tame grasses, feed roots and vegetables also do well and, although I have seen good results with these crops, I do not wish to speak as an authority. On the other hand our experience with live stock, such as horses, cattle and hogs, has been sure and remunerative. This also applies to poultry. Generally speaking, the country here offers so many possibilities for the farmer, that a man can hardly fail to make good.

Lands can be purchased from the great Canadian Pacific Railway Company on conditions almost equal to those of the Danish Credit Association.

I will gladly reply to anyone writing for further information.

(Sgd.) MARTIN BORDING.

Standard, Alta.,

January 5, 1915.

Dear Sir:

I can not write much. I came here last March and I did not raise any crop, but broke forty acres of sod for this year. I like the country and think it will be all right. The soil

is good, and a good grass country, and I think by an effort one can do well here.

(Sgd.) H. H. BUZZARD.

Standard, Alta.,
December 29, 1914.

Dear Sir:

Your letter and notice just received. Will write a few lines.

I came here from Atcheson, Kansas, last spring. I broke 80 acres last season, have the 80 acres in fine shape for seeding in the spring. I can say I am well pleased with this country. I have 640 acres one and a-half miles from Standard, a lively little town. This is the nicest climate in the summer I have ever seen, and the winter so far has not been bad. Twelve below the coldest this winter. The crop here this year was good. On well prepared ground I believe a man can do better here than he can on a rented farm in the States.

Anyone wanting to learn something about this country I will promptly answer all questions.

(Sgd.) JOHN W. SPORES.

Standard, Alta.,
December 24th, 1914.

Having come to Alberta three years ago from Wash., U.S.A. Have found conditions very good for the settler. The land is very productive in all grain raising, growing much larger crops or yields than most places I have lived in the States, and from the difference in prices it makes it very attractive to the settler.

For mixed farming and stock raising Alberta cannot be beaten.

The climate I find is delightful, while cold in the winter it is the sunshine and pure air that makes is great.

(Sgd.) C. J. JACKSON.

Standard, Alta.,

January 5, 1915.

It is now almost six years since I came to this district, during which time I have been engaged in the farming and stock raising business.

During that time I have seen weather and climatic conditions which, at times, were not altogether favorable to the grain grower; but I can truthfully say that I don't believe any man in the district, who has handled his farming operations properly can have very much to complain about. I have formed my opinion on this point from my observations of the results obtained by men, who farm according to conditions as they find them in this country and not by standards they have adopted in other countries.¹ My own experience here in the grain raising line has been most gratifying. The poorest yield I received being fifteen bushel per acre in the year 1910 (the dry year).

As far as the stock raising business is concerned, all I can say is: That you must see before you can realise to any great extent the opportunities and advantages this country offers this industry.

(Sgd.) H. McDILL.

MEMBERS OF THE STANDARD EXTENSION OF SETTLEMENT CLUB

Name	Address	Former Home
H. H. Shaw	Standard	Idaho.
H. H. Ellis	"	Montana.
R. A. Dyson	Redland	Illinois.
E. A. Wagler	"	S. Dakota.
W. L. Knight	"	Oregon.
Lee Dixon	"	Washington.
H. H. Buzzard	"	Missouri.
Wm. Drydale	"	Missouri.
J. N. Stanley	"	Missouri.
J. J. Molson	Rosebud Creek	Missouri.
R. M. Prater	Standard	Missouri.
G. H. Casebolt	"	Missouri.

Name	Address	Former Home
J. W. Sparks	Standard	Kansas.
Wesley Giberson	"	Oklahoma.
Lee Sparks	"	Kansas.
J. B. Johansen	"	Iowa.
J. W. Keats	"	Kansas.
Walter Watson	"	S. Dakota.
J. B. Shultz	"	Idaho.
J. E. Shaw	"	Missouri.
O. C. Wells	"	Indiana.
J. O. Hobbs	Rosebud Creek	Indiana.
A. T. Getty	Rosebud Creek	Penn'vania.
L. F. Ferguson	Standard	Ireland.
S. O. Larson	"	Nebraska.
J. L. Lawrence	"	Minnesota.
Harvey McDill	"	Oregon.
W. W. Bolick	"	Washington
A. Fandry	"	Kansas.
J. B. Connelly	"	S. Dakota.
Chris. Dahl	"	S. Dakota.
C. J. Jackson	"	Washington
A. C. Lind	"	Kansas.
H. P. McNaughton	Rosebud Creek	Penn'vania.
Mrs. C. E. McAuliff	"	Kansas.
George Day	"	England.
Douglas Horn	Tudor	Montana.
C. E. Schafer	"	Illinois.
John A. Grant	Standard	Ontario.
J. K. Crapo	Gleichen	Idaho.
D. R. Barnes	Standard	Montana.
T. B. Barnes	"	Montana.