ASSINIBOIA CELEBRATES 40th ANNIVERSARY

First Municipality in Western Canada Leads in Making Local Improvements

Spent Over Million and a Half Dollars This Year in New Homes, Stores, Banks, Schools, Bridges, Sewers, Water Mains, Pavements, Sidewalks, Parks, Fire, Police and Health Protection.

Street Railway, Telephone, Light, Power Extensions Ordered—Choice Industrial Sites, With Ample Trackage Facilities—Cheap Power and Soft Water Available for New Industries.

By S. EDWARD WRIGLEY

History does not record the exact year the entire valley of the Assiniboine and Red took its name (it was prior to 1812 the name District of Assiniboia was chosen), nor why the change in the initial letter. The district extended in every direction for 50 miles from Fort Garry.

It was on July 15, 1870, that a transfer was made by the British government of the Hudson's Bay Co. territory (now known as Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and the North-West Territory) to the Dominion of Canada and ten years later, in 1880, the rural municipality of Assiniboia was incorporated, and now consists of all that portion north of the Assiniboine river and west of Winnipeg city limits, four miles wide and twelve in length, having an area of approximately 26,000 acres or 48 square miles, much of which is under cultivation.

Just as the "Portage trail" was the main highway out of Winnipeg forty years ago, so it is today, with its great width of 132 feet, asphalt pavement, electric arc lights and street railway to the western end of the municipality over twelve miles west of the Winnipeg general post office. It is also the longest highway in Canada, covering a distance of over 800 miles to Edmonton, which was the route taken by the buffalo hunters and freighters in the early days of the west.

AN OLD LANDMARK

Prominent among the old road houses (long since burned or torn down) was Deer Lodge, built in 1852, the home of that notable figure of early Fort Garry days, the late Hon. James McKay, member of Manitoba's first government. Included in the list of well known guides, explorers and travellers who set off on their journeys across the Great Lone Land from the "Lodge" to the Rockies are Lord Milton, Dr. Cheadle, Dr. Hector, Capt. Palliser, Lord Southesk, Gen. Butler and Lord Dunraven.

ANNIVERSARY YEAR

Those old days are past and a new and brighter day has dawned. Assiniboia, this year celebrates its 40th anniversary since being incorporated as a rural municipality. Many changes have taken place during the past forty years, but the pioneer municipality has never relinquished its premier position of being the richest and most prosperous in the Canadian west.

From a commercial standpoint it can now number its merchants and workers by thousands, it being the first municipality to enjoy an increased population of urban residents anxious to enjoy the comforts of a healthy suburban home, where land is not only reasonable but all the modern conveniences are available, such as electric light and power, telephone, soft water, paved streets and walks, postal house delivery and excellent street car service.

MANY IMPROVEMENTS

Considerably over half the municipality has been subdivided into large building lots with wide streets and lanes, many having building restrictions and nicely wooded with oak, elm or poplar, especially along the Assiniboine river. These streets are all reached from Portage avenue (132 feet wide) which is electric-lighted and paved to Headingly, ten miles west of the city limits, and owing to its popularity has been fittingly termed the "Surburban White Way," as it is the mecca from early morn until long after dusk, during the summer and autumn months of thousands of business and pleasure-seekers in conveyances of every description, from a Ford to a 5-ton rural transport motor truck.

TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES

On account of the unbounded faith in the municipality, the Suburban Rapid Transit Co. (the first rural electric railway in western Canada) was built in Assiniboia, thereby adding another reason why it has been able to hold the premier position amongst the long list of western Canadian municipalities. With frequent and cheap means of access from Headingly, and other suburban districts along the route, a distance of ten miles west of Winnipeg, it is not at all surprising that thousands of city residents should decide to "own their own home" away from the noise and dust of the city streets, where they could have their own garden, floral plot or poultry yard and still floral plot or poultry yard and still find their taxes less than half of their city cousin's.

AMPLE TRACKAGE AVAILABLE.

Manufacturers, dealers in building materials, fuel, etc., desirous of locating near the Manitoba capitol city, can secure ample track frontage and siding accommodation at a very reasonable price, land being held at a much lower price than in Winnipeg.

Assiniboia is served by the Canadian Pacific railway, southwestern branch, with station and ample sidings at Murray Park and Headingly and also by the Canadian National railway, Oak Point branch, with depot and 5,262 yards of sidings at Westside (St. James). Sturgeon Creek will probably have connection this year by a spur line from the C.P. railway at Murray Park.

FIRST SUBURBAN PAVED ROADS

Assiniboia was the first rural municipality to build asphalt streets and cement walks. It can boast of 10 miles of asphalt paving and two miles of cement walks. It has also over 100 miles of graded streets and lanes and a similar amount of plank walks. Add to this 24 miles of sewers, together with 26 miles of water mains and fire hydrants.

EXCELLENT SOIL AND WATER.

The land is rolling, soil black loam (8 inches) with clay subsoil and is watered by the Sturgeon Creek and Assiniboine river at the centre and southern portions of the municipality. Good water is secured from 30 to 90 feet, good wells being located throughout the districts west of Silver Heights. From this point east to the city limits excellent soft water from Shoal Lake, over 100 miles east, is supplied to practically every home.

Only that portion of Ward 3, Assiniboia, east of Sturgeon Creek, together with Wards 4and 5 (St. James) are included in the Greater Winnipeg Water district, making a total of over 12½ square miles. The general supply main is connected with Winnipeg city water main on Portage avenue, St. James, and the district from there west to Sturgeon Creek is now supplied with the purest soft water from Shoal Lake. The municipal plant, situated at Deer Lodge, which is available in case of an emergency, is pumped from artesian wells and was in use from 1914, when it was built. It is equipped with an efficient system of pumping machi... y and boilers.

The water mains are now laid west on Portage avenue to Sturgeon Creek bridge in order to serve this thickly settled residential district, and a reservoir, sufficiently large enough for the entire district, will later be constructed in St. James. This work has been done by Thos. Jackson & Sons.

A well and pumping station has been completed in the Woodhaven subdivision, opposite Sturgeon Creek bridge, and water mains have also been laid down in all the streets throughout that district.

With the introduction of an unlimited supply of soft water the municipality will be in a position to offer very low rates to manufacturers as it will have an ample supply in excess of its needs for domestic and fire purposes.

New sewers will be constructed this year. It is also intended to build a trunk sewer from the river to Ness avenue in the district west of Deer Lodge.

CHEAP ELECTRIC LIGHTING AND POWER

Fully half an hour before travellers on the Southwestern branch of the C. P. railway, entering Winnipeg at night, reach their destination they are surprised to find a long line of over 200 electric arc lights stretching for ten miles from Headingly into the city. That Assiniboia is the best electric lighted rural municipality in Canada there can be no doubt. Electric lighting is installed in practically every home as far west as Headingly, at a cost of 3 1-3c per K.H. A very low rate is also available for power, which is supplied from Lac du Bonnet, Man., about 75 miles east.

FIRE PROTECTION.

The residents of Assiniboia have much cause to be proud of their efficient fire department, which is located in St. James. Besides the staff of ten men, there are three teams of horses, a motor pumper, fire engine, hose and chemical wagon, together with 3,500 feet of hose. The fire hall (with hose tower) was built in 1912, provision also being made for the municipal police court and station. The municipal engineer's staff, building and health inspector also have offices in the building.

A fire alarm system will undoubtedly be installed next year. The addition of a ladder and equipment brings the St. James hall up to fire fighting strength. A new fire hall is to be built next year in Sturgeon Creek. A new gasoline engine and pump has already been purchased, which, together with two teams of horses and necessary equipment, will give ample protection from fire.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

For the maintenance of law and order in Assiniboia a police staff of nine men are employed, together with the magistrate. The police station and court room is located on Berry street, St. James, the municipal weigh scales being in the rear of the building. The police equipment includes two motorcycles.

MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS.

The municipal hall is a splendid two-story brick building, having a commanding appearance on Portage avenue, at Kirkfield Park, and is a valuable asset to the municipality. Both the secretary-treasurer and assessor have offices in this building, with a combined staff of about twenty clerks.

A HEALTHY DISTRICT.

The health of the entire municipality is at a very high standard, due to the fact that the streets, lanes and gardens are kept clean by prompt removal of garbage.

Besides the Deer Lodge Convalescent hospital at Deer Lodge, Assiniboia has the only cancer hospital in western Canada—the Russell institution at Sturgeon Creek.

COMMERCIAL SERVICES

The "West" exchange of the Manitoba Government telephones is located in St. James and requires the services of 14 employees. The building is well equipped throughout, having about 1,200 connections in the municipality. A rural exchange is also located at Headingly.

The C.P. railway and G.N.W. Telegraph companies each have offices in the municipality, as have also the Dominion and Canadian National Express companies. A free express delivery service has been established in St. James, west to Albany street.

POSTAL FACILITIES.

The entire eastern portion of the municipality, extending out to Silver Heights, has the advantage of a free postal house delivery in St. James. The letter carrier service, will, it is expected, be extended west to Sturgeon Creek this year, there being, according to a recent survey 529 homes in this district. There are 7 post offices in Assiniboia, all of which have daily deliveries, mails also being despatched at similar intervals. Two good local papers are published in Assiniboia, known as the St. James Leader and the Assiniboia News.

FIRST COMMERCIAL AERODROME.

Assiniboia has the first commercial aerodrome in Manitoba located at Kirkfield Park. It is also the headquarters for western Canada in connection with the Trans-Canada aviation flight next week.

POPULATION INCREASING RAPIDLY.

There is now a population in the municipality in excess of 13,000, and it is growing very rapidly. Several thousand new residents this year will increase the population to over 15,000.

FARM AND DAIRY PRODUCTS

Assiniboia has 8 large dairies, over 600 dairy cows, and ships considerably more than a car load of milk and cream daily to the Winnipeg market.

While a very considerable amount of grain is marketed annually at the Purity Flour elevator in Headingly and also in Winnipeg, yet the western portion of the district is better fitted for mixed farming, marketing and poultry raising.

MANY GOOD EXHIBITS.

An annual agricultural and dairy exhibition is held in September, also a dressed poultry and grain fair in December at Headingly by the local Agricultural society, and it is interesting to note that two years ago the Headingly exhibition had the second largest entries of swine in the entire province, giving place only to Virden. Garden and poultry shows are also held annually in St. James and Sturgeon Creek, and increased interest and number of exhibits is noted each year. Special mention should be made of the work done by the Manitoba Boys and Girls' clubs at the Sturgeon Creek and Headingly fairs. At the former, sewing has received high commendation from the club judges of the Manitoba Agricultural college staff, while cookery, basket weaving, drawing, painting and manual training work was all keenly contested, and, together with the exhibits of vegetables, poultry and livestock was highly praised by the large crowd in attendance.

AN UNCHARTED LAKE.

Although the Greater Winnipeg area includes upwards of 40 parks and squares, yet it is an admitted fact, that apart from the Assiniboine and Red rivers, it requires a train journey of over 50 miles to reach any of the lake resorts where bathing and boating is enjoyed by all during the hot summer months.

With the completion of the splendid new cement bridge over Sturgeon Creek, opposite Woodhaven, a dam will be erected with the intention of raising the height of water and providing a lake covering an area of about three acres.

The lake, which will be less than five feet in depth, will permit of bathing by the children of the district, or building castles in the sand. It is expected a larger dam will be constructed at a later date, some distance down the stream in order to provide a larger body of water, where boating and bathing in the summer and skating in the winter months would be possible.

As Sturgeon Creek is supplied by flowing springs of pure cold water and lined with trees on the southern side of the stream it will undoubtedly be one of the most picturesque spots around Winnipeg.

TWO NEW PARKS.

It will come as a surprise to the average citizen to learn that there are now two excellent park sites, already purchased in Assiniboia.

The new park in the heart of St. James, between Hampton and Parkview, promises to be very popular indeed, as it is so centrally located it could hardly be improved upon. Owing to the great demands made upon the works department during the present season, the planting of trees, shrubs and flowers, together with building of walks and lawns, had to be deferred until next season, when its convenient location will prove a most valuable asset in this portion of the municipality.

Work on the Woodhaven lake and park is already well under way and will next year provide the residents of that district with a delightful retreat. Situated as it is on Portage avenue, Woodhaven boulevard and the Woodhaven lake the new park could not have a more desirable setting, as the bright, sparkling waters of the lake, with its semi-circle of beautiful oak and elm trees make a picture which will be as delightful to the eye as the cooling, shady lawn will prove to the tired mothers and children, with whom this delightful resort will become instantly popular.

Just east of Silver Heights is the Portage avenue entrance to the Sharpe boulevard (90 ft. in width), which will later encircle the west and northern portions of Winnipeg. There are many high class residential districts along Portage avenue and the Assiniboine, which offer shady and desirable sites for a suburban home, that have been recognized as "beauty spots" by the summer campers for many years past.

POPULAR COUNTRY CLUB.

The well-appointed and popular St. Charles Country club, with its 245 acres of golf links and polo grounds, is located but a short distance southwest of Sturgeon Creek. It was honored on two occasions last year by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who spoke enthusiastically of the splendid advantage of well paved highways which make these out-door clubs so convenient for the busy office man who needs recreation after his arduous day's labor.

SPORTING ORGANIZATIONS.

Assiniboia has the fastest mile motor dirt race track in Canada at Kirkfield Park, also a good half-mile driving park at Headingly.

With enthusiastic athletic associations in St. James, Sturgeon Creek and Kirkfield Park it is not at all surprising that sports of all kinds are very popular in Assiniboia, fast teams being entered in many leagues, while several of the leading athletes of the west reside in the district.

NEW GOLF CLUBS.

The Assiniboine Golf club are to be congratulated upon their enterprise in securing an excellent site near Deer Lodge at the corner of Ness and Mandeville, where they have erected a comfortable clubhouse. It contains a nice dining-room, locker rooms for ladies and gentlemen, professional's quarters and a large verandah overlooking the links.

The Assiniboia Curling club is a real live bunch of enthusiasts. Despite the fact that they only organized a year ago, they made a good showing in the annual bonspiel, and are building a new 6-sheet curling rink this fall, which will be one of the largest in this district, while another rink has been built in Headingly.

AN EXCELLENT BAND.

Another reason to feel proud is the high state of efficiency to which the St. James Salvation Army band has reached. That it is a credit to the district there can be no doubt, and especially so because several of its members saw military service overseas. The Great War Veterans have also organized a good orchestra, which is in great demand, as is also the St. Patrick's orchestra, at Kirkfield Park. A choral society has also been organized in St. James, under the direction of W. Newbold.

THEATRES AND HALLS

Two good moving picture theatres in St. James are well patronized, and deservedly so, as the reels produced are such that the entire family can enjoy the interesting and instructive views. There are also eight public halls in the municipality.

LARGEST ENLISTMENT IN WEST

Assiniboia has the honor of sending more men for active service than any other rural municipality in western Canada, if not in the Dominion. No less than 1,200 men and many women enlisted for overseas service. The honor roll of those who paid the supreme sacrifice contains the names of 88 of Assiniboia's former respected citizens, some of whom were pioneer residents in the municipality.

A WAR MEMORIAL

It is proposed to erect a war memorial in memory of the brave boys who fought and died in France and Flanders in the great war.

VETERANS ACTIVE

The Great War Veterans association have an enterprising branch, with upwards of 200 members in St. James, owning their own comfortable club rooms at 280 King Edward street. A branch of the Grand Army of United Veterans has also been formed at Sturgeon Creek and Kirkfield Park.

A brass tablet containing the names of Assiniboia's honored dead in the great war decorates the walls of the G.W.V.A. club rooms, St. James, funds for the purpose having been collected by the Veterans from the residents of the municipality.

GOOD RIFLE RANGE

In the new military rifle range at St. Charles, purchased at a cost of about $200,000, the Manitoba marksmen have one of the most modern and well-equipped in western Canada and is reached by the Suburban Rapid Transit Railway.

Many of the best Bisley shots use this range when training, and the annual matches of the Manitoba Rifle association are shot here. The range, which consists of about 1,200 acres, has also been used as a military brigade camp.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES UNEXCELLED.

In conclusion, it is with justifiable pride that reference is made to the education of our children, for, after all, it is of first importance, and, as such, receives the earnest and vital attention of a painstaking and carefully-chosen group of school trustees.

St. James and Sturgeon Creek districts, with a population of about 12,000, are finding it increasingly difficult to properly house the children, despite the fact that there are five schools, Kirkfield Park and Headingly each having one, and St. Charles a well-established and ably-conducted ladies' convent and day school.

A new school will shortly be erected in St. James to relieve the overcrowded condition there. A municipal high school has also been opened this term on Linwood street, St. James.

In some of the schools glasses are provided free for any scholars needing them, after examination by specialists under direction of nurses in charge, whose duty it is also to examine the children for defects and symptoms of disease, and to teach them the value of good health; to visit the home of every child requiring special attention, give advice, and in a score or more ways assist to develop healthy children.

The study of music receives special instruction both at the Bannatyne school, Sturgeon Creek, and St. Charles convent. Playgrounds with all the necessary equipment, swings and "sand piles" (for the little tots) are provided at almost all the schools, while the auditoriums of the larger buildings are thrown open in the evenings for the free use of community clubs, ratepayers and garden associations—in other words, providing the citizens with a meeting place where they may discuss matters which affect them all, and to plan improvements which will tend to make their homes and district more comfortable and beautiful.

Playgrounds are kept open for the children during the summer holiday season, with competent instructors and attendants in charge.

The general trend of civilization has always been westward, ever westward. It is, however, a notable fact that in practically every city and town, the first and always the largest movement of residents as home builders in the suburbs is to the west. That this is a fact no sane person can deny. That it is likewise true in Greater Winnipeg is admitted by all. To prove why it is true would be to repeat the oft-told story of the rapid development of Assiniboia, lying on the western boundary of Winnipeg, with its broad acres and beautiful forests, both of which have yielded to the onward march and progressive building policy which has marked Assiniboia as the banner municipality of western Canada, if not of the entire Dominion.

Never before in the history of Assiniboia has there been so much building construction, never before have the mercantile and other commercial interests enjoyed such a period of prosperity.

In every line of commerce there has been extension, new fields of action have been opened and each and all have enjoyed a volume of business many times in excess of any previous season's trading.

SOUND FINANCIAL STANDING.

Were not the financial standing of Assiniboia in the very best possible condition it is absolutely certain that upwards of a million and a half dollars would never have been loaned from the Dominion and provincial treasuries for the housing scheme in this municipality.

This cannot help but impress the casual reader that municipal bonds, when purchased from certain municipalities, are considered to be gilt-edge security. Financial corporations stand committed to the policy of assisting civic bodies whenever circumstances permit and thereby make possible a larger programme of local improvements in the district.

BANK CLEARINGS INCREASE.

Banking houses reflect business conditions more truthfully than any other known agency. Less than two years ago one bank was doing business in Assiniboia—today there are seven, in St. James, Sturgeon Creek and Headingly. Few cities in the west can boast of such excellent banking arrangements as Assiniboia. The reason for this is not hard to find.

St. James is the third largest place in Manitoba and will be incorporated as a city within a twelvemonth. With industrious workmen and prosperous merchants, comes the need for institutions providing safety vaults, collection department and other facilities for financing business.

EXTENSIVE BUILDING PROGRAMME.

Portage avenue, in turn, passes through five prosperous business and residential districts known as St. James, Sturgeon Creek, Kirkfield Park, St. Charles and Headingly, in all of which extensive building operations are now under way, and this year's building record more than doubles that of the past ten years.

It is to the credit of the municipal council that while some municipalities delayed taking definite action in the Dominion government housing scheme, Assiniboia was first to make a start, losing no time in securing the required authority and homes for returned soldiers and others were being erected within a month's time from the passing of the by-law on May 15, 1919.

That the government housing campaign was a popular move in the right direction is evidenced by the urgent demand for loans and the satisfactory arrangements provided by several prominent realty and building firms to erect comfortable homes, large or small, on monthly terms of payment is commendable. That their enterprise has been beneficial to the municipality is proven by the large number of worthy citizens who have purchased and taken possession of their new homes, thereby considerably increasing the assessed value of the district to about $1,000,000. To "own your own home" is the spirit of the times, and in these days of "high cost of living" there is a world of satisfaction in knowing that every payment helps to reduce the principal, in place of (as formerly) helping to increase the bank deposits of the wealthy apartment house owner.

Assiniboia loaned last year the sum of $500,000, under the housing scheme, and has loaned this year approximately $1,000,000.

The "More and Better Home" campaign, inaugurated a year ago by the municipal council, has already proven beneficial—not only in providing several hundred new homes—but an increase of $30,000 in taxes on improved, rather than vacant property.

A FEW FACTS.

Assiniboia has local improvements valued at $1,400,065. This year will see double that amount spent.

One new traffic bridge spans the Assiniboine this year. The Headingly bridge to West Winnipeg and Charleswood has been completed, while a second structure will probably be built next year at Silver Heights (opp. Sharpe boulevard) to Assiniboine park, Tuxedo and Charleswood. A handsome concrete bridge has also been completed over Sturgeon Creek to Woodhaven district.

In addition to the C.P. railway and public bridges at Headingly, the C.N. railway (combined railway and traffic) bridge at St. James to Tuxedo, there is also a pontoon bridge at St. James to the City park, from Portage avenue, near Deer Lodge.

There are seventeen churches and missions in Assiniboia.

All fraternal and national societies are strongly represented in St. James; the Labor organizations have likewise a strong membership.

The St. James Retail Merchants' and Business Men's associations are both live organizations, who by collective and individual effort, are contributing no small amount to the general improved conditions now prevailing throughout this district.

It is possible to use the cement board sidewalk every foot of the distance from Sturgeon Creek bridge to the Winnipeg post office, a distance of about seven miles.

ELECTRIC RAILWAY SERVICE.

The time service on the Suburban Rapid Transit railway is as follows: First car from Headingly 7 a.m.; St. Charles, 6 a.m.; Kirkfield Park, 6.60 a.m.; Sturgeon Creek, 6.11 a.m.; Deer Lodge, 5.59 a.m.; St. James (city limits), 6 a.m. Last car leaves Winnipeg (Portage and Main) for Headingly, 10.00 p.m.; Sturgeon Creek, Kirkfield Park and St. Charles, 11.49 p.m.; Deer Lodge, 1.29 a.m. and St. James (city limits), 1.46 a.m. The Headingly cars have a baggage, freight and smoking compartment.

Cars operate over 13 miles of railway west of Winnipeg city limits, over half of which is doubled tracked, including lines to the St. Charles Country club and the Dominion government rifle range.

A LARGE CONTRACT.

Never before in the history of Greater Winnipeg has there been such an era of prosperity—never has there been anything to approach, or equal, the splendid building record of the past twelve months.

When the urgent appeal for more homes rang out a year ago, to meet the requirements of the citizens the Federal government signified its intention to alleviate this demand, if possible, by the allotment of a grant, thought to be large enough for this purpose; a Winnipeg firm was found with sufficient enterprise and business capacity to properly take charge of all orders, regardless of size or distance from base of supply.

The first in question was the well known building supply house of Thos. Jackson & Sons, 370 Colony street, Winnipeg, whose field of action includes practically every suburban district in Assiniboia, Fort Garry, St. Vital and West and East Kildonan.

The excellent building materials supplied by this firm have secured for them an ever increasing amount of business and it is a daily occurrence to see 20 or 25 teams of sand, gravel and cement delivered to Sturgeon Creek, West Kildonan or Fort Garry. The firm are also extensive dealers in coal and wood, and are prepared to make early delivery of all orders prior to the heavy movement of grain eastward and the corresponding shortage in cars.

MANY WORKINGMEN'S HOMES.

Only one other street in Sturgeon Creek has made such extensive growth as Wytewold road, in Silver Heights View subdivision, which has been laid out into highly desirable building lots, from Portage avenue north to Saskatchewan avenue. Not is this all. Roads have been graded, sidewalks built, lights installed, making it at once a most inviting location for a very large number who have taken up their homes in this locality.

Another excellent reason why this property has proved to be so popular with home builders is owing to its convenient distance from Strathmillan school, but a few blocks to the east.

Those who are interested in locating a very suitable home site will do well to consult with T. J. Langford, 902 Electric Chambers, who holds a reputation for fair dealing and reasonable prices.

CHOICE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT

Strathmillan district, immediately west of the magnificent estate and former home of the late Lord Strathcona, offers practically every inducement desired by home builders and has become deservedly popular.

Many handsome residences and bungalows have been erected during the past year on Davidson and Maddock streets, between Portage and Silver avenues, at a cost exceeding five thousand dollars each. These are occupied as fast as they are constructed and are as comfortable as they are attractive in appearance.

All these homes have been built from specially prepared plans of stucco or gypsum blocks, considered to be the best kind for durability, beauty and reasonable cost of construction. We learn from V. C. Maddock & Co., 301 Huron and Erie building, corner Portage avenue and Fort street, that the present price of this property is less than in pre-war days, that Strathmillan district is in the heart of this district, and also that water and sewer connections will be available next spring.

MUCH LUMBER REQUIRED.

This review would not be complete did it not record the fact that the majority of lumber supplied during the past twelve months in the great building campaign which has been inaugurated in Assiniboia, has been supplied by the Alsip Brick, Tile & Lumber Co., Tribune building, Winnipeg. This firm, under the management of R. C. Graham, enjoys the proud distinction of being one of the largest, if not the largest building supply firms in western Canada. Not only has much of the lumber, brick and tile supplied to the City and District Land Co. been shipped from the yards of the Alsip company, but their city orders also have grown enormously during the past year. Their show rooms in the Tribune building are tastefully decorated, where samples of all kinds of building materials can be inspected and prices quoted.

BEAUTIFUL OAKDALE PARK.

There is not another subdivision in Great Winnipeg which has so many handsome and comfortable residences as Oakdale Park in the Deer Lodge district of St. James.

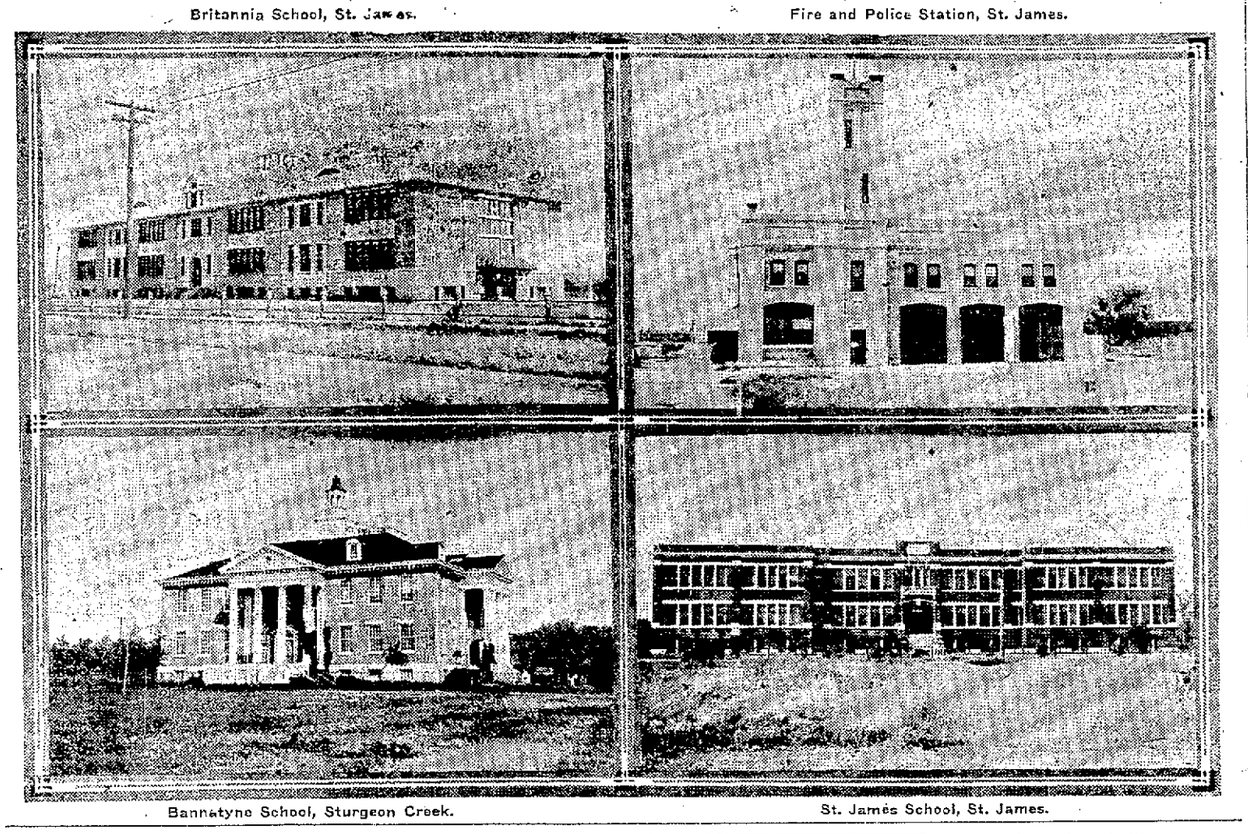
Even before the war many fine homes had been erected and during the past year upwards of fifty more have been built, all of which are occupied by prominent professional and business men of Winnipeg.

The district is delightfully wooded and enjoys electric light, water and sewer connection, good walks, together with two excellent schools, but a block distant and is reached by the Deer Lodge, St. Charles and Headingly cars, undoubtedly the best street car service in Greater Winnipeg.

Oakdale Park has building restrictions which make it very inviting to the home owner. Fred. C. Stewart & Co., 301 Trust and Loan building, Portage Ave. East, are the owners of this property.

Britannia School, St. James.

Fire and Police Station, St. James.



Bannatyne School, Sturgeon Creek.

St. James School, St. James.

ACTION COUNTS

"While some other sections of the world are still talking about building houses, discussing the need for houses, finding out the reasons why houses are not being built, trying to induce somebody to build houses, and bewailing the fact that nobody will build houses, there is one place that is getting houses built."

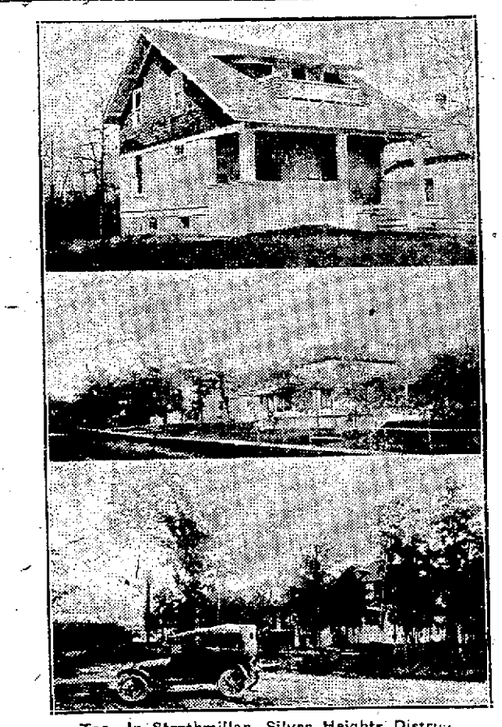
The above editorial, taken from the columns of The Winnipeg Tribune recently, precedes a glowing review of the housing campaign inaugurated in New Zealand, which states that "workingmen's homes are being built in different centres of the Dominion. Already work has started on 188 houses and 122 additional are under consideration."

There is no need to encompass the globe to find "live wires"—no need to even leave Greater Winnipeg to observe, not 188 houses in course of erection, but upwards of 500 new homes being constructed, and every one capable of withstanding the rigors of a northern climate; not built for a climate where the mean annual temperature for the different seasons is: Spring, 55; summer, 63; autumn, 57; winter, 48.

Like New Zealand, Manitoba, too, has high figures to pay for building material and labor—perhaps more; but, unlike our sister colony overseas, Assiniboia is not only building workmen's houses, but many of the better type homes, ranging in price from $1,500 to $15,000.

In New Zealand, "private capital has not been attracted to the erection of homes, so the government assumed the responsibility." In Assiniboia, building construction is proceeding with alacrity and dispatch, building firms and individuals alike being assisted in financing the cost by availing themselves of the funds provided by the Dominion and provincial governments for housing purposes.

It's high time we turned our eyes away from watching what sister colonies overseas are doing and learned more of what is going on right here at home.



Top—In Strathmillan, Silver Heights District.
Centre and Lower—In Woodhaven, Sturgeon Creek.

The object of this special page in the Winnipeg Free Press is to show to the world that Assiniboia, not only can, but does, compete very favorably with all other rural municipalities, towns and even cities, large and small, in Manitoba and other parts of the Dominion of Canada in meeting and supplying the unprecedented demand for new homes, a situation which has retarded or stunted progress in many places, while in Assiniboia building activity has resulted in an era of greater prosperity than has ever been enjoyed by its citizens.

In giving facts concerning our various business houses, industries and public institutions, we deem it justice to make mention of those prominent citizens and corporations who, with their capital and energy, have worked so industriously for the welfare of the municipality. We have used no flowery language and indulged in few predictions for the future; but in all cases we have preferred to exercise our judgment, rather than unfold the wings of imagination. Pursuing this policy, we have presented a carefully selected mass of facts.

It is our pleasure to give a brief resume of the progressive building contractors and real estate firms, who are earnestly endeavoring to supply the demand for well-built homes, and of the enterprising mercantile men who have charge of the well-displayed stocks it has been our privilege to inspect. In this connection we will also endeavor to acquaint the reader of the fact that quality has been the first consideration in the selection of the various building materials or stocks, and that there is a general desire on the part of all to deal generously and honestly with their patrons and customers.

Directory of Municipal, Railway, Realty and Industrial Interests and Firms in Assiniboia who have, by their financial assistance, made this special page possible:

ALSIP BRICK, TILE & LUMBER CO.
Tribune Bldg., Winnipeg

SUBURBAN RAPID TRANSIT RAILWAY
Electric Chambers, Winnipeg

V. C. MADDOCK & CO.
301 Huron and Erie Building, Winnipeg

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE
Municipality of Assiniboia

T. J. LANGFORD
902 Electric Chambers, Winnipeg

THOS. JACKSON & SONS
370 Colony Street, Winnipeg

C. O'KELLY & SON
901 McArthur Bldg., Winnipeg

F. H. STEWART & CO.
801 Trust and Loan Bldg., Winnipeg