

Vivian Pratt

Interesting Facts

About

Grande Prairie

A progressive town in the famous
Grande Prairie District of the
Peace River Country

1930

Compliments of
The Grande Prairie Board of Trade
and Chamber of Commerce

Grande Prairie

The Wholesale Distributing Centre for the Grande Prairie District of the Peace River Country

The Town of Grande Prairie, with a population of 2,000, is located approximately 110 miles north and 210 miles west of Edmonton, on the Northern Alberta Railways, and is the largest town north of the Capital City.

EDUCATION

Educational facilities consist of a nine-room, fully equipped Public School employing ten teachers; a new High School of eight rooms, employing three teachers, and a two-room Separate School, all of which are constructed of brick.

There are: Five Implement Warehouses, Six Automobile Salesrooms and Garages, Five Wholesalers, Four Oil Companies, One Lumber Yard, One Sash and Door Factory, One Planing Mill, a Land Office and Immigration Hall are also located here, a 65-Bed fully modern brick built Municipal Hospital, Court House, Liquor Vendor, a branch of the Royal Bank of Canada, the Imperial Bank of Canada, and the Bank of Montreal, Three Hotels, an efficient Fire Brigade, an Electric Light and Power Plant delivering a 24-hour service, Five Churches, Two Moving Picture Theatres (equipped with "talkies"), Five Grain Elevators, besides numerous stores, financial offices and Headquarters for the Forestry Department, with an airport which is capable of being used by commercial airplanes. Also a good, eight-page weekly newspaper, all home print.

Grande Prairie is the home of the Northern Winter Carnival, which is held in February of each year, and is the centre of all sports. Accommodation for auto tourists is provided by an up-to-date Auto Camp.

Choice residential lots can be purchased from the Town at very reasonable prices by those intending to build homes. For information regarding these, write to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Town of Grande Prairie.

ROBT. KEYS, Sec'y Treasurer
Grande Prairie

Foreword

The opportunities offered by the Peace River Country to the settler, business man and capitalist, have been broadcasted far and wide, and have created a demand for exact information as to the potentialities of this, the last great area of the North American continent available for settlement on a large scale. It is to meet such a demand that this booklet has been prepared.

I have seen the Peace River Country for myself and I am convinced that it offers great opportunities for land settlement and for business expansion commensurate with settlement, but despite my convictions, I would prefer that the settler, capitalist and business man should make his decision to go into this country after investigating for himself and not upon my commendation.

This booklet will have answered its purpose if it convinces people who are looking for new opportunities for settlement, business and capital investment, that the Peace River Country merits further investigation before a decision is made in favor of some other region.

J. E. BROWNLEE,
Premier of Alberta.

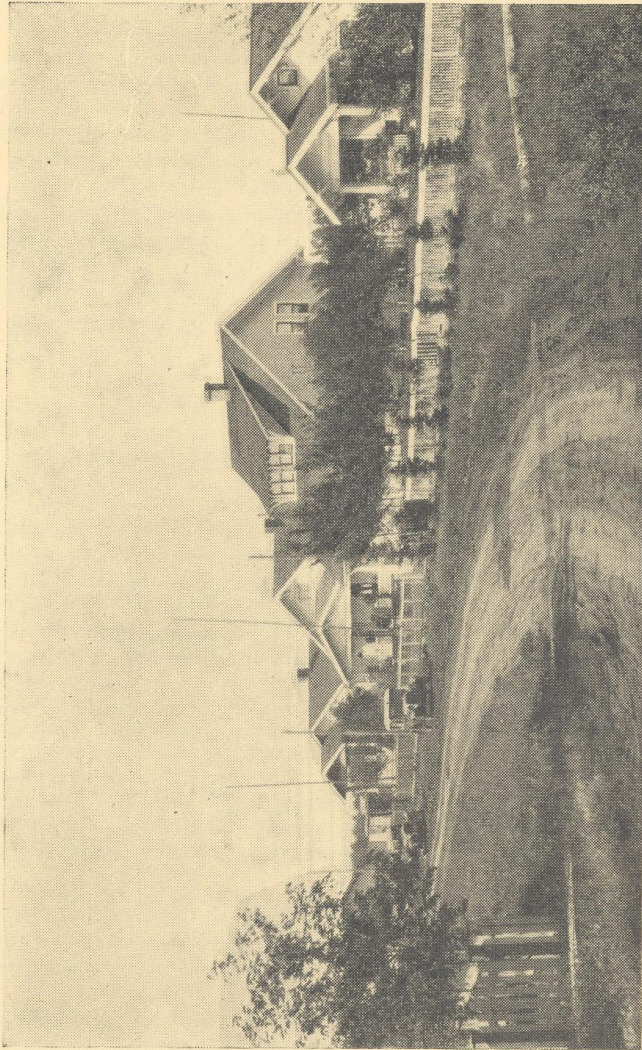
It is a pleasure to write a note for your booklet. The work of advancing the frontiers of civilization is in itself stimulating, and in its results satisfying. There are many problems connected with our pioneer territory which will engage the minds of those who know and work for the North, for many years to come. The Grande Prairie country, a settled and stable part of a new northern agricultural territory, can do much through its citizens to influence the whole trend of economic thought in this new work which faces our country, and to lay down the solid and sane economic foundations on which the building of our future prosperity can safely proceed. To that task the citizens of the north will bring their enthusiasm and their optimism, and soundness of vision for the things that are permanent and worth while in life.

ROBT. C. WALLACE
President, University of Alberta.

Through the eyes of faith the pioneers of the Peace River country saw two decades ago the fertile valleys of the Peace and its tributaries dotted with 15,000 farms and 60,000 prosperous and contented people as we see them today:

Much less faith is required to envision now the early enlargement of farm settlement into ten times its present area and population. That may be reasonably anticipated as the probable development of another two decades. In that new growth, as in the past, Grande Prairie district will receive its full share, for no other part of the great Peace River country presents a brighter or more promising prospect to the new settler.

JOHN M. IRMIE,
Managing Director, Edmonton Journal.



A FEW RESIDENTIAL HOMES ON THE BOULEVARD



GRANDE PRAIRIE MAIN STREET ON CIRCUS DAY



GRANDE PRAIRIE, the largest town in the Peace River Country, has a population of 2,000 and is steadily forging ahead. It is mainly situated on the East bank of Bear Creek, overlooking the beautiful valley through which that stream winds its way to its junction with the Wapiti River. It is the "hub" of the highway system and from it roads radiate North, South, East and West.

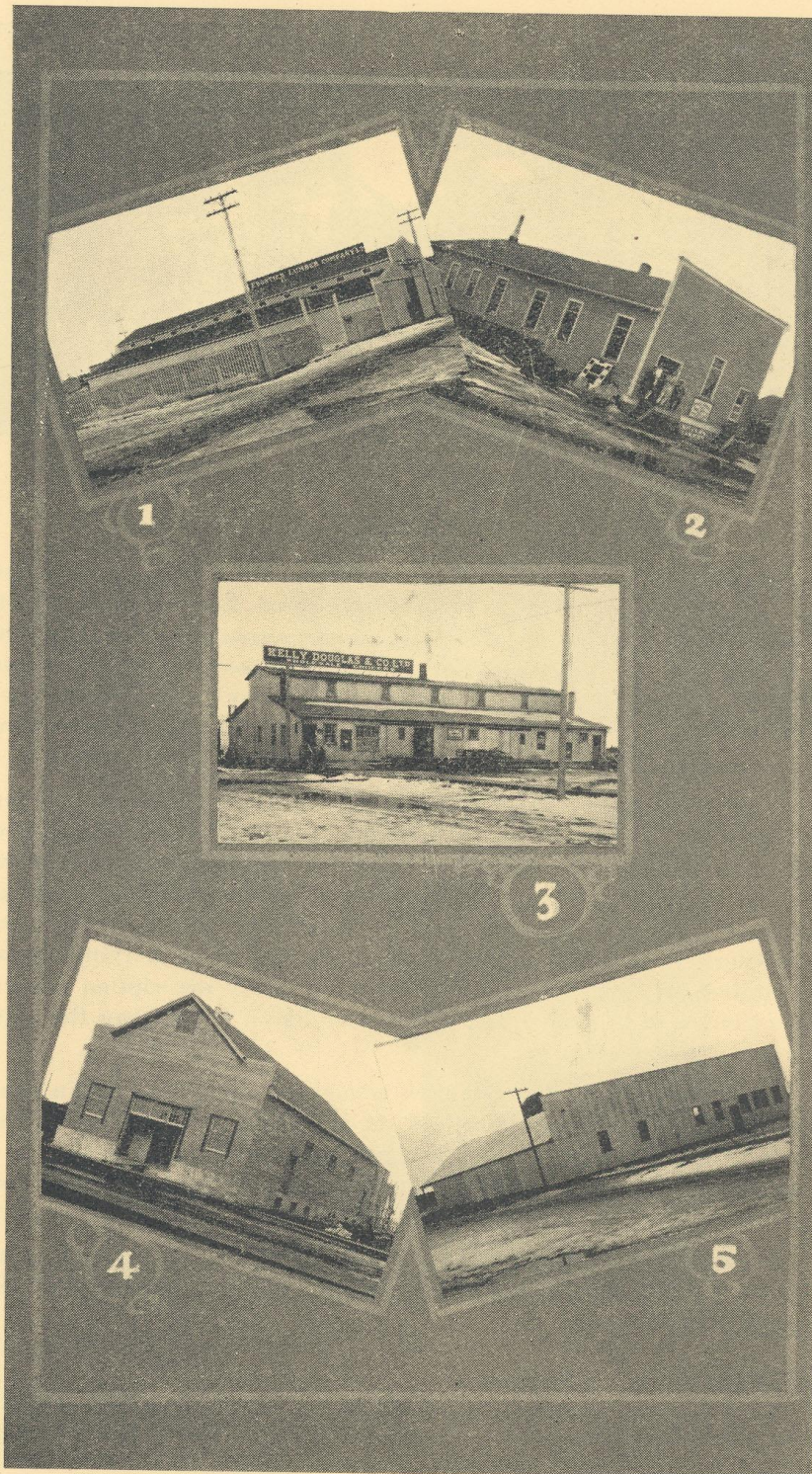
The story of the development of Grande Prairie and its surrounding district is one teeming with human interest. Commencing about 1910 with hundreds of eager land seekers wending their weary way over the long, heart-breaking "Edson Trail" through swamp and muskeg, over stumps and windfalls, down to the present time when incoming settlers step off a modern electrically-lighted train carrying sleepers and dining car, and find accommodation of every description rivalling that of cities on "the outside", reads more like a novel, than the actual progress of events.

The "tent town" of early days is now an up-to-date urban centre governed by Mayor and Council of six members, ably assisted in their efforts to make Grande Prairie a bigger and better place to live in, by a committee of citizens appointed under the provisions of "The Town Planning Act."

Regular council meetings are held in the Town Hall, which is also used to house the Fire Brigade equipment and the office of the town secretary-treasurer.

DISTRIBUTING CENTRE—

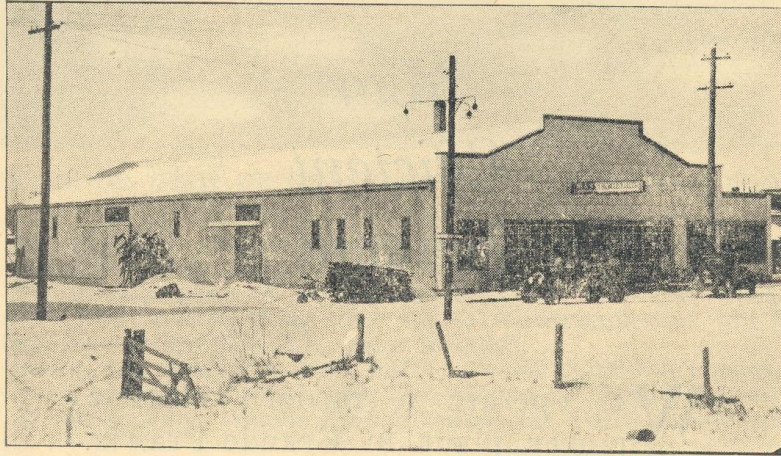
That Grande Prairie is destined to be and is now recognized as being the distributing centre of that part of the Peace River Country lying to the south of the Peace River, is evidenced by the fact that already three wholesale houses, namely: Campbell-Wilson & Horne Co., Ltd., Marshall-Wells Co., Ltd., and Kelly-Douglas Co. Ltd., have established warehouses here. In addition to these firms a large number of others now make Grande Prairie their "distributing Centre for the



1, Frontier Lumber, Ltd. Warehouse. 2, Spicer's Wholesale Bakery.
3, Kelly-Douglas Wholesale. 4, Elk's Hall. 5, John Deere Plow Company Warehouse.

Photos by C. W. Field.

North Country", among them being John Deere Plow Co., Ltd.; Massey-Harris Co. Ltd.; Cockshutt Plow Co., Ltd.; International Harvester Co., Ltd.; Frontier Lumber Co., Ltd.; Peace River Tractor and Equipment Co., Ltd.; Renfrew Machinery Co. Ltd.; Beatty Washing Machine Co.; Oliver Plow Co.; Royal Fruit Co., Ltd.; Taylor & Son's Ice Cream Manufacturing Co.; Imperial Oil Co., Ltd.; British American Oil Co., Ltd.; North Star Oil Co. Ltd.; Union Oil Co.; Texas Co. of Canada, Ltd. Grande Prairie Planing Mills, Distributors Limited, as well as the Chevrolet, Dodge, Chrysler, Ford and other car dealers.



MASSEY-HARRIS Co. WAREHOUSE, CONSTRUCTED 1929-1930

COMMERCIAL CENTRE—

As a commercial centre, Grande Prairie is fortunate in having three good hotels, an up-to-date printing plant issuing a weekly paper, a wholesale bread and pastry plant, five garages, a number of first-class general and novelty stores, three hardware stores, machine, welding, and blacksmith shops, tinsmith shops, sash and door factory, planing mill, two meat (wholesale and retail) markets, several tonsorial and beauty parlors, and other business establishments too numerous to mention. It is expected that a steam laundry will be built and put into operation during the coming summer.

At the present time Grande Prairie is in need of a creamery and a flour and grist mill.

The Town of Grande Prairie has one of the best electric light and power plants for a town of its size in Western Canada.

PROFESSIONS—

The professions are well represented, there being at present three doctors, three dentists, one chiropractor, four legal firms, six ministers, and two veterinary surgeons.

RELIGIOUS AND FRATERNAL—

The religious life of the community is well cared for by the Anglican Church, Roman Catholic Church, United Church of Canada, Baptist Church and Salvation Army, each of which has a fine building. Several other denominations also hold services regularly, but have not yet erected churches.

Fraternal societies are represented by the Masonic, Oddfellows, Elks and Orange lodges.

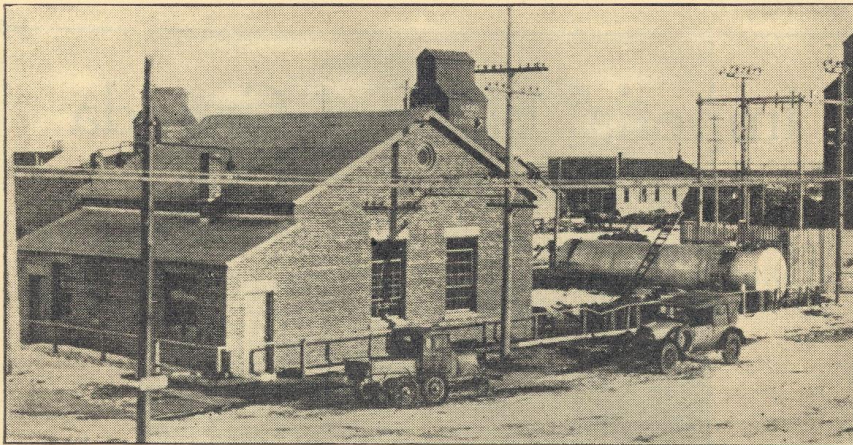
Electric Power

*Your
Efficient
Servant*

WE operate a modern electric power plant in Grande Prairie, supplying twenty-four hour reliable service, at reasonable rates, for this and the adjoining communities. Our plant is of ample capacity for all present requirements and we are prepared to expand as conditions require. Reliable electric power service will be our contribution in the assured development of this district.

Do It Electrically
THE BETTER WAY

CANADIAN UTILITIES
L I M I T E D

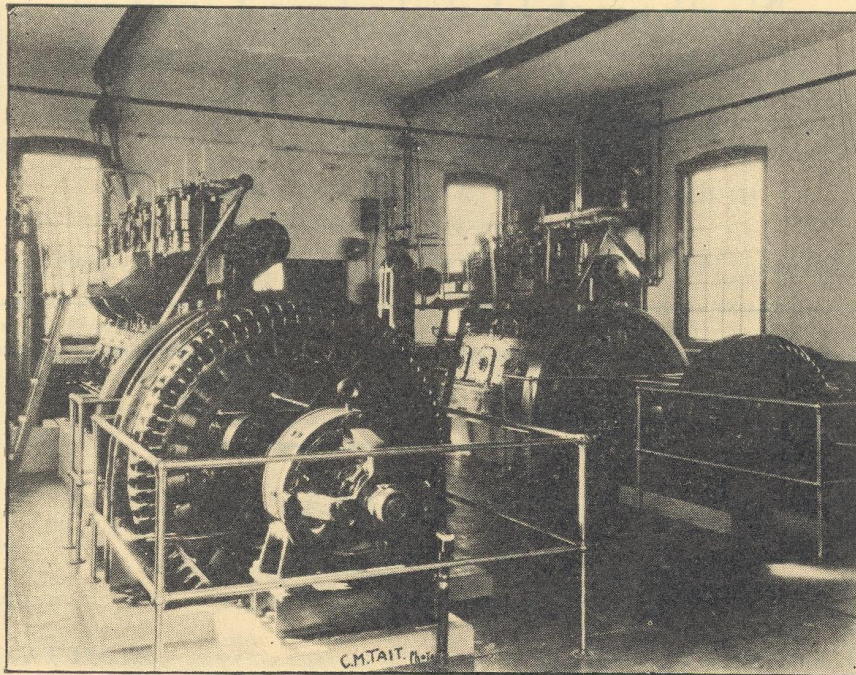


EXTERIOR VIEW OF CANADIAN UTILITIES POWER PLANT

The Canadian Utilities Limited obtained a franchise for supplying electric power to Grande Prairie in January, 1928.

The original plant of three small units was soon overloaded. To meet the rapid growth of the town and surrounding district, two Diesel oil engines totalling 500 H.P., were installed.

During the summer of 1929, thirty miles of 13,200-volt transmission line were constructed, connecting the villages of Sexsmith, Clairmont and Wembley; thus, Grande Prairie became the distributing centre for electricity in this section of the country, and today this plant of the Canadian Utilities Limited is supplying light and power service to over 500 consumers. The transmission lines will be extended to other points as soon as conditions will warrant, giving the whole district electric service on a par with any other section of Alberta.



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RESERVE	8,000,000.00
TOTAL ASSETS IN EXCESS OF	150,000,000.00

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INSURANCE

D. W. PRATT

FARM LANDS

PHONE 38

GRANDE PRAIRIE, ALBERTA

GRANDE PRAIRIE

ALBERTA



IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA

FINANCIAL—

The Canadian chartered banks are well represented in The Royal Bank of Canada, Bank of Montreal and Imperial Bank of Canada, each of which has a large, modern brick structure, with up-to-date vaults, for the convenience of their respective customers.

Several of the mortgage, insurance and trust companies are also represented in Grande Prairie by agents.

GOVERNMENT SERVICES—

The various departments of the Dominion Government are represented in Grande Prairie by the following: Dominion Government Telegraphs; Inland Revenue Officer, Dominion Lands and Timber Offices, Dominion Immigration Hall, re-distributing Post Office, Forestry Air Patrol and Fire Rangers, and Land Settlement Board.

The Provincial Departments are represented by headquarters for the Alberta Provincial Police Detachment; Central Telephone Headquarters, giving 24-hour service; Provincial Agriculturist; Highway Inspector; Provincial Weed Inspector; School Inspector; Inspector for Liquor Control Board, and Government Vendor.

JUDICIAL—

Grande Prairie is the judicial centre for the Sub-Judicial District of Grande Prairie, and the only Court House building north of Edmonton, is located at this point. A fine, new, up-to-date structure of stucco finish, houses both the offices of the Sheriff and Deputy Clerk of the Court. District Court Sittings are held monthly, and Supreme Court Sittings once a year.

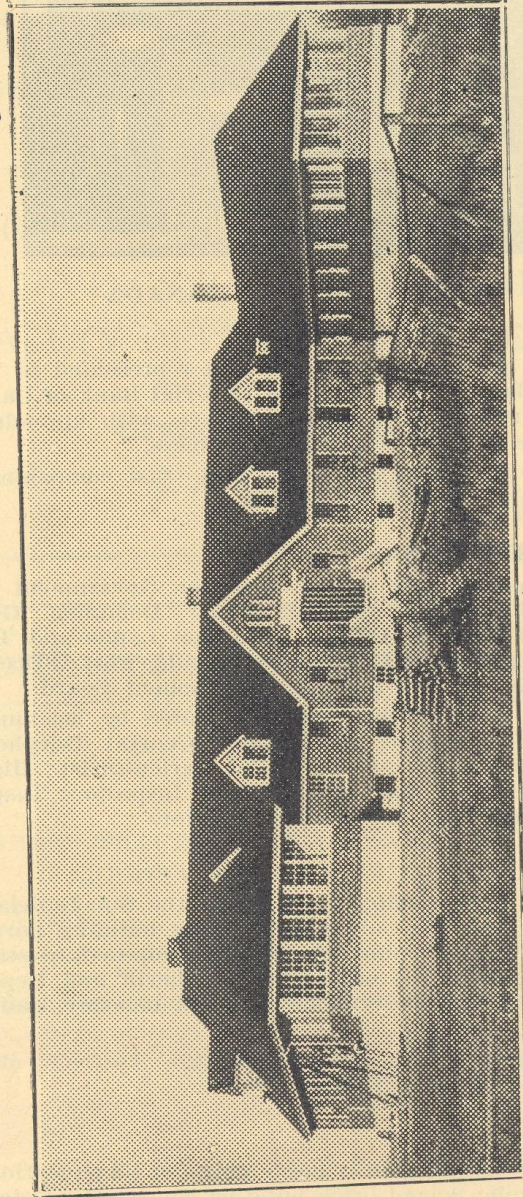
The Police Magistrate for the Sub-Judicial District of Grande Prairie, also has his office at Grande Prairie.

EDUCATIONAL—

The Town of Grande Prairie is justly proud of its educational facilities. There is a Public School brick building consisting of eight rooms.

Just recently a new \$30,000.00 High School building of brick and tile has been opened. There are eight rooms and four are already in use.

The new High School is equipped with an up-to-date laboratory, is modern in every respect, and is prepared to care for the High School needs of a large district. Pupils are now enrolled from points 50 to 100 miles away.



Grande Prairie Municipal Hospital, No. 14. Erected 1928. Photo by C. W. Field while building was under construction. See page 11 for particulars.

The teaching staff consists of eight teachers in the Public School, four in the High School, and also a music teacher. All grades up to and including Grade XII are taught. The enrollment in the two schools is approximately 400.

In addition to the above there is a Roman Catholic Separate School, being a brick building with two rooms, modern throughout, and well equipped. Already the attendance taxes the capacity of the building to the limit and although only built eighteen months ago, it is expected that an addition will have to be added in the very near future.

There are also in the town several privately conducted music studios, where vocal and instrumental lessons are given. A Musical Festival is held every alternate year, at which outside adjudicators preside.

HOSPITAL—

The new Municipal Hospital, located close to the Town of Grande Prairie, is the largest and best equipped hospital north and west of Edmonton. It was completed in February, 1929, and was built through the combined efforts of the people of the district for the promotion of good health. A great deal of the furnishings and equipment was made possible through private donations from people and organizations in the district.

The building is of tapestry brick veneer, of cottage type, and is 136 feet by 32 feet in the main, with wings 48 feet by 22 feet on either end. A solid concrete foundation 10 feet high supports the building throughout.

The capacity of the hospital is at present 40 beds, divided into private, semi-private and public wards, all located on the main floor. Also located on the main floor are the general and emergency operating rooms, X-Ray, case-room, nursery and sun-rooms.

The furnishings are new and consist of some of the most up-to-date equipment. The Scialytic non-shadow operating-room light, Acme X-Ray with adjustable table, Hawley fracture table, Zeifler maternity bed, up-to-date nursery, steam laundry, electric light and power, hot and cold running water, steam heat, baths and flush toilets, are some of the modern furnishings and equipment of the hospital.

The hospital is financed by means of a low rate of taxation on all real property within the hospital district and this in turn makes it possible for the ratepayer and his family to receive hospitalization at a minimum cost. In other words, the well contribute toward the care of the sick.

The medical profession patronizing this hospital are all of the highest standing and the management makes every endeavour to keep the nursing staff up to the highest degree of efficiency.

SOCIAL AND ATHLETIC—

The social and athletic side of life is amply provided for by The Canadian Club, The Canadian Legion, Whist Club, Bridge Club, Rifle Club, Badminton Club, Baseball, Softball and Basketball Clubs, two Tennis Clubs, two (talkie) Theatres, up-to-date Skating and Curling Rink, with three sheets of curling ice, Hockey Club, Northern Winter Carnival, and a new Golf Club.

Seven miles west of Grande Prairie is located the Richmond Hill Golf and Country Club where golf enthusiasts from all parts of the district enjoy their favorite Sport. The club takes its name from the well known hill upon which the course is located. From this hill a wonderful view is afforded of the whole Grande Prairie territory and a better situation for the up-to-date club house now under construction could hardly be obtained. The course itself consists of nine holes and was laid out by Julian Garrett of Edmonton. The club has at present about seventy-five members.

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Our Motto:—"Fair Wear or a New Pair"

J. W. LEITGEB

P.O. Box 1025

Grande Prairie, Alberta

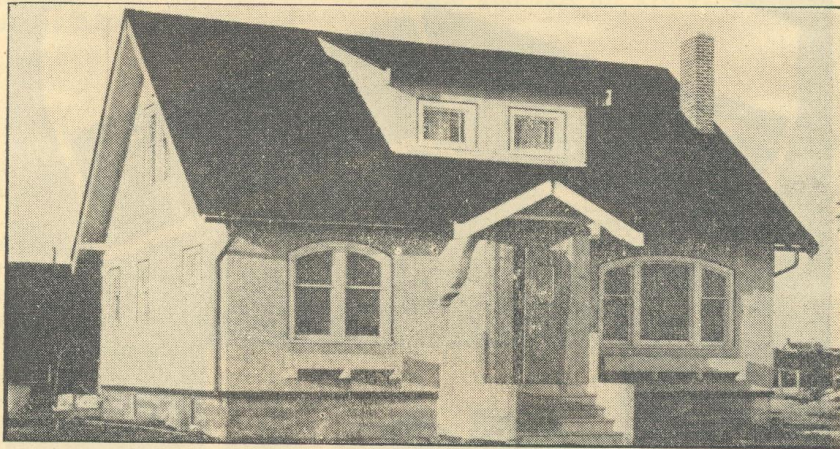
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AIRPORT—

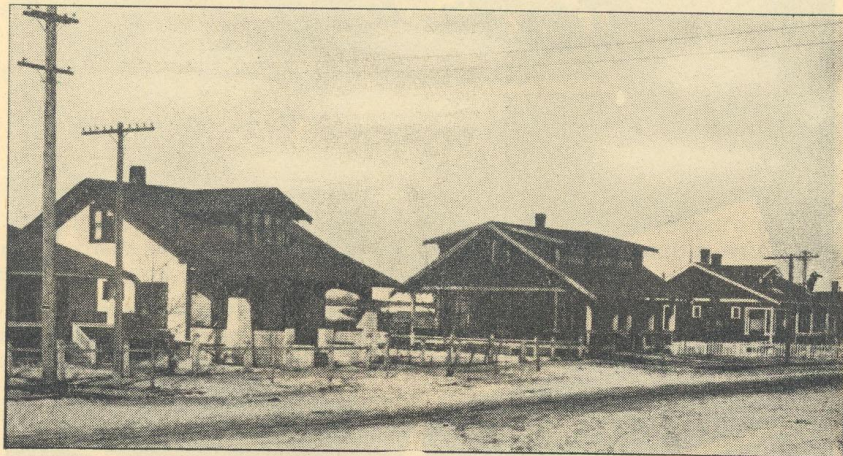
About two miles west of Grande Prairie is the Forestry Corps Air port, one of the best of its kind in Alberta. Here two planes are kept for use in fire patrol work.

RESIDENTIAL CENTRE—

Grande Prairie is rapidly becoming a town of good homes, many new residences having been put up during the past two years, and more are under construction.



HOME OF J. CRUMMY, ERECTED 1929



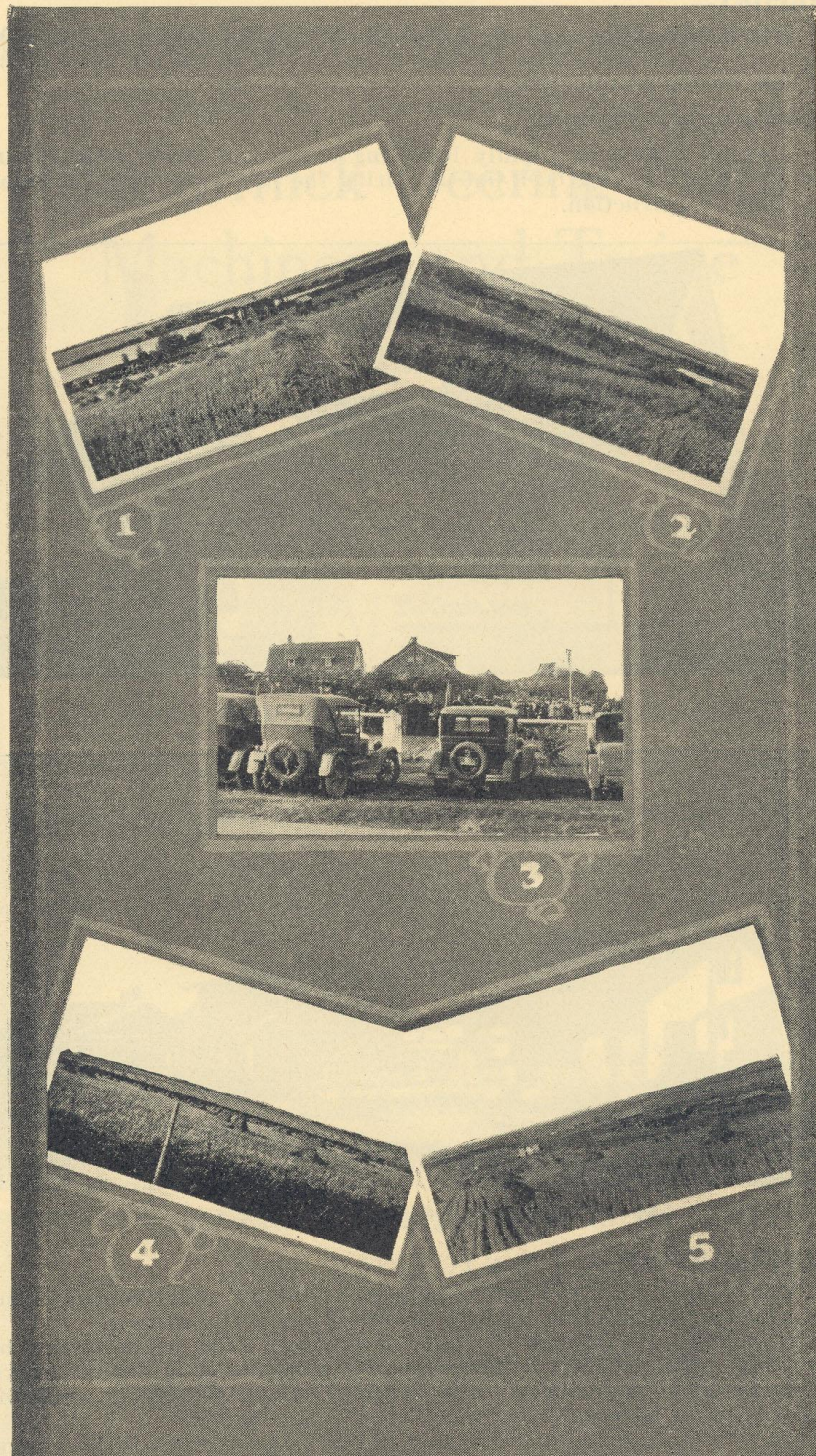
A FEW GRANDE PRAIRIE RESIDENCES

MISCELLANEOUS—

The Council of the Town is at present taking under consideration the matter of installing a modern sewerage and water system.

At present the supply of water is obtained from wells owned by the town. The water is delivered to the residents each day in tanks, and is excellent for drinking and domestic purposes. Ice is available at all times at reasonable prices.

To tourists it will be interesting to know that there will be a good trail through from Edmonton to Grande Prairie during the coming summer and that Grande Prairie has a first-class, up-to-date tourist camp.



FARM SCENES IN GRANDE PRAIRIE DISTRICT
Experimental Station, Beaverlodge, shown in centre.

The Grande Prairie District

GEOGRAPHICAL OUTLINE

The GRANDE PRAIRIE DISTRICT, in the Peace River Country, lies to the south of the Peace River and is bounded on the west by the foothills of the Rockies, on the south by the Wapiti River, and on the east by the Little Smoky and its tributaries, comprising in all approximately 16,000 square miles of territory. This famous district is just north of the 55th parallel of latitude and has an average altitude of about 2,200 to 2,500 feet.

SOIL

Dr. F. A. Wyatt, Professor of Soils, of the University of Alberta, after extensive field examinations and laboratory tests, has given the following statement with regard to the soils of the Grande Prairie area :

"Adjacent to Grande Prairie is an extensive area of very fertile soils. This area is about 25 to 45 miles in extent. Generally speaking, the surface is level to rolling and consists of open prairie or bluffs, interspersed with numerous small lakes and ravines. The country on the whole is relatively free from stones.

"In certain restricted localities poor soils such as light sandy ones or heavy gumbo occur. However, such areas constitute only a very small proportion of the area. The predominating soil type is intermediate to heavy in texture, consisting chiefly of dark brown to black loams and clay loams. The dark colored soil varies in thickness from about 5 inches to upwards of one foot in certain areas. This dark colored layer overlies a drab silty clay horizon which gives way to a clay subsoil.

"Analyses of samples of soil from the Grande Prairie area show the following composition :

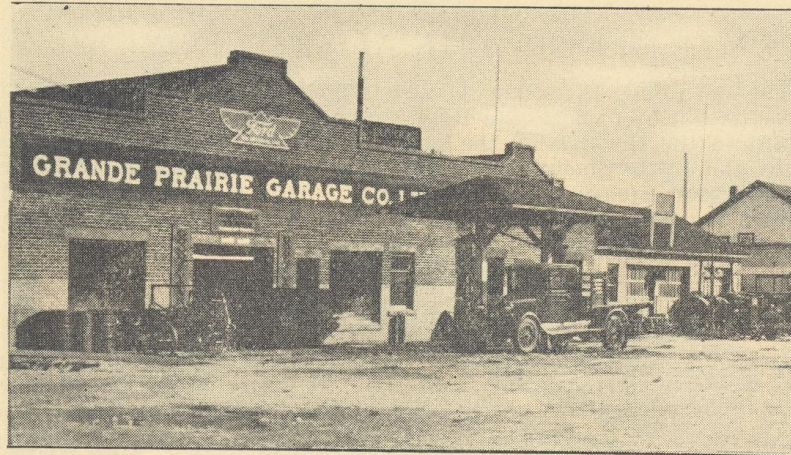
	High	Low	Average
Nitrogen	498	.201	.35
Phosphorus	10	.07	.085

"These soils are about neutral in reaction and support an abundant growth of all crops common to the district, including legumes such as alfalfa and the clovers.

"The above data bear out the indications in the field that these soils are well supplied with plant foods. The composition of these soils show that they are about all that could be desired."

The following is an extract from the Dominion Government Report :

"The climate of the Peace River District is excellent, and remarkably moderate considering the latitude. The air is pure and bracing; in winter clear and crisp and in summer dry and balmy. Extremes of temperature, sudden changes, and severe storms are very rare. The winters are by no means mild, but are very dry, with clear skies, little snowfall, and few winds. Blizzards are unknown, but mild Chinook winds occasionally sweep through the mountain passes from the warm Pacific, giving pleasing respites of balmy days to break the monotony of a steady cold. Spring comes early and quickly; the snow soon disappears, and the ground is dry in a few days. Ice on the lakes and rivers breaks up during the latter part of April or early in May. Seeding usually begins early in April. . . . Most of the rainfall occurs in June and July. . . .



Grande Prairie Garage Coy., Ltd.

FORD and FORDSON SALES and SERVICE--TOWING SERVICE
GRANDE PRAIRIE - - - - - ALBERTA

Phones: 53, 104 and 143

Out of town visitors are especially invited to take advantage of our REST ROOM

A Friend To Both The Old Settler And Newcomer

Throughout the years the Edmonton Journal has been a welcome visitor in the homes of Central and Northern Alberta.

Newcomers have become old-timers during this period and the Journal remains the favorite newspaper. Day by day the news happenings of this wealthy northern territory—and of the world—are recorded in the Journal's pages.

Write us for subscription rates

Edmonton Journal

EDMONTON

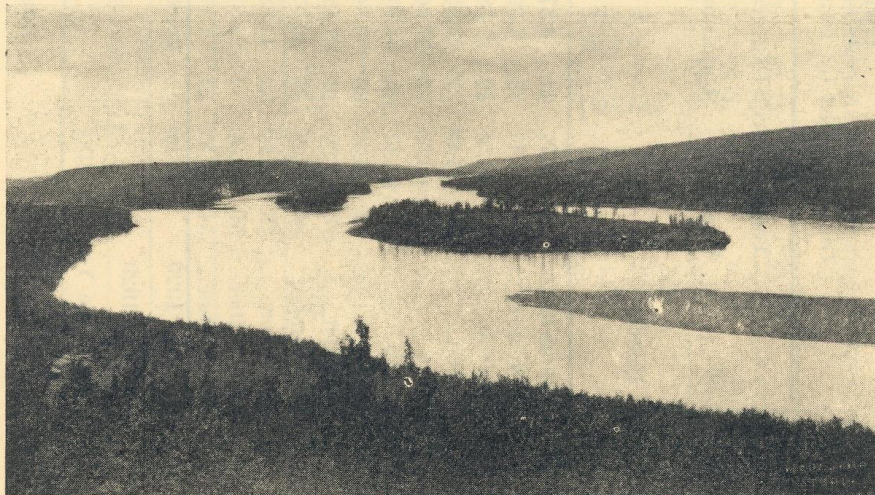
ALBERTA



PORTION OF A SUNDAY AFTERNOON CROWD AT BEAR LAKE

"The summers are remarkable for their long days and short nights. For three months there is almost continual light, the nights being merely a couple of hours of semi-darkness, except when the sky is overcast. The days are warm, but the heat is not sultry or murky. The nights are cool and conducive to rest. Summer frosts, hail storms, or fierce winds are very rare. These are the growing days when vegetation makes its remarkable progress to compensate for a short season. The long, cool evenings are especially pleasing after the day's heat.

"Harvest commences about the middle of August. September is an especially pleasant month. The days are still warm, but the nights grow colder. . . . Life in the woods is at its best during this month. October brings heavier frosts, and the ice forms late in this month or early in November. Winter can usually be expected early in November, though mild weather until Christmas is not uncommon."



THE JUNCTION OF THE SMOKY AND PEACE RIVERS

1929 METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS

Data supplied by Dominion Government Experimental Substation at Beaverlodge, Alberta.

Month	Temperature, Degrees Fahrenheit		Precipitation, inches		Evapora- tion, inches	Sunshine Hours		Sleighting Days							
	Maximum	Minimum	Rain	Snow		Total Pre- cipitation	Hours								
	Highest	Mean	1929	14 Yrs. Average	1929	14 Yrs. Average	1929	14 Yrs. Average							
January.....	43	9.77	44	4.87	2.45	7.89	26.0	14.32	2.60	1.45	72.1	81.70	31	31.0	
February.....	44	23.11	31	1.32	12.22	13.72	6.0	7.46	0.60	0.79	96.5	112.60	28	28.1	
March.....	52	36.58	15	17.58	27.08	22.03	5.0	12.41	0.50	1.27	172.9	146.97	18	26.57	
April.....	70	46.53	3	23.53	35.03	36.60	0.07	4.55	1.17	0.72	0.32	201.5	210.37	2	9.14
May.....	77	60.39	23	37.00	48.70	48.22	2.05	1.87	2.05	1.50	3.92	184.8	277.77		0.43
June.....	81	68.43	30	44.10	56.27	55.33	2.17	1.62	2.17	1.90	4.44	247.5	263.87		
July.....	82	72.32	35	46.84	58.58	59.72	3.54		3.54	2.34	5.75	281.2	202.54		
August.....	87	71.29	36	45.45	58.37	57.27	1.20		1.20	1.74	3.65	216.6	239.34		
September....	80	62.27	26	39.07	50.67	48.87	2.39	3.39	4.89	1.64	2.13	201.3	187.39		
October.....	73	56.90	22	32.88	44.89	38.79	0.70	4.38	0.70	1.09	1.08	201.0	157.16	5	7.29
November....	57	39.30	4	24.87	32.09	24.61	0.46	8.75	1.34	0.97		90.5	96.24	18	24.64
December....	54	17.81	27	1.77	9.79	10.81		8.5	13.09	0.85	1.37	72.8	74.57		
Average, 1929.		47.06		25.80	36.35	35.32									
Total, 1929.							12.58	90.25	21.61	21.16	2038.70		102		
Average Yearly Total							71.07	16.78	19.76	2044.52		128.60			

Black face figures (44) indicate below zero temperatures.

These are the records for one section of the district only. In some sections the precipitation has been greater, varying from year to year. Although the precipitation is not heavy, yet the presence of good drought resisting soils and the absence of hot winds have enabled crops to be produced in the driest years.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORTS

The following information was furnished by W. D. Albright, Superintendent of the Dominion Experimental Sub-Station at Beaverlodge, Alberta, situate in the Grande Prairie District.

PRECIPITATION AT BEAVERLODGE, 1919-1929

Month	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	*12-Yr. Av'ge
January.....	1.12	0.65	3.85	1.40	1.75	0.70	1.20	1.27	0.50	1.65	0.42	2.60	1.43
February.....	1.20	0.70	0.20	0.97	1.75	0.00	0.44	1.79	0.45	1.40	0.20	0.60	0.81
March.....	1.36	1.95	2.12	1.20	1.20	1.60	1.40	1.70	0.28	1.00	1.12	0.50	1.29
April.....	0.60	0.82	1.82	0.03	0.10	0.23	0.15	0.13	0.66	0.79	3.05	1.17	0.80
May.....	0.22	1.04	1.15	1.65	2.11	0.23	0.45	0.93	1.06	2.38	0.95	2.05	1.19
June.....	2.29	2.48	3.17	2.04	0.38	1.26	0.60	1.23	4.45	2.78	2.26	2.17	2.09
July.....	3.59	2.22	2.52	1.89	0.44	3.65	1.91	1.38	2.06	2.98	2.16	3.54	2.36
August.....	1.71	2.14	2.66	2.51	0.54	0.92	4.60	3.50	0.69	1.03	1.48	1.20	1.92
September.....	0.42	1.78	1.80	2.69	1.44	0.37	1.43	2.45	1.84	2.27	0.84	4.89	1.85
October.....	0.97	2.18	1.65	0.67	0.61	0.18	1.99	1.61	0.68	0.85	0.83	0.70	1.08
November.....	0.55	2.34	0.43	0.91	0.78	0.12	1.43	2.05	1.49	1.55	0.10	1.34	1.09
December.....	1.10	1.78	0.75	0.60	0.80	0.50	1.57	2.51	1.17	2.00	1.40	0.85	1.25
Totals	15.13	20.08	22.12	16.56	11.90	9.76	17.17	20.55	15.33	20.68	14.81	21.61	17.14

* Average calculated from an aggregate of 12 years' figures, hence not a precise total of vertical column above, on account of the dropped decimals.

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J. H. Hunter, Inspector, Grande Prairie

Branches located in the PEACE RIVER COUNTRY are:
Clairmont, Fairview, Fort St. John, Grande Prairie, Grimshaw,
High Prairie, Roycroft, Sexsmith, Spirit River, North
Star, Notokewin, Wanham.

MEAN TEMPERATURES—

The fourteen-year monthly averages are as follows, in degrees Fahrenheit:

January, 7.89; February, 13.72; March, 22.03; April, 36.60; May, 48.22; June 55.33; July, 59.72; August, 57.27; September, 48.87; October, 38.79; November, 24.61; December, 10.81.

HAIL—

Damage by hail is practically negligible.

STORMS—

Cyclones, tornadoes or hurricanes are unknown.

CEREAL CROPS**TWO BUMPER AND TWO GOOD CROPS IN SUCCESSION—**

The southern part of the Peace River Country was favored in 1926 and 1927 with two of the most bountiful harvests ever gathered in any grain-growing area. These two bumpers were followed by good paying crops in 1928 and 1929, giving four successive crops that have set this frontier region firmly on its feet. Numerous instances of phenomenal yields have been attested by responsible parties and further supported by affidavits of the growers, of which the following are fair examples:

In 1926, a Grande Prairie field of 15 acres yielded 1,050 bushels of wheat, an average of 70 bushels per acre. A field of new breaking in the same district threshed 61 bushels of wheat to the acre. A Valhalla farmer secured 2,110 bushels of wheat from 31 acres, an average of 68 bushels per acre. Near Niobe 6,400 bushels of wheat were threshed from a field of 150 acres and over 5,000 from another one of 110 acres. All of this wheat graded No. 1 or No. 2 Northern and carried a very high protein content.

Oats running well over 100 bushels to the acre were quite common. Barley, peas and rye, though not so extensively grown, likewise gave heavy returns.

Even in 1928 and 1929, when lack of moisture somewhat curtailed the general averages, excellent yields were secured from locally favored areas where good farming was practised. One farmer at Elmworth, for instance, had 21.3 acres of Garnett wheat in 1928 averaging 47 bushels per acre and grading No. 2 through the Pool, while his Victory oats went 110 bushels. In the same year a Beaverlodge farmer threshed 48 bushels of No. 2 Garnet per acre, from a 38-acre field of breaking. His 1929 crop on the plowed stubble of this field was claimed to be 47 bushels per acre, while a field of sod plowed out of timothy the previous year was said to have yielded 56 bushels. While these yields were quite exceptional they indicate the possibilities.

WORLD PRIZES—

Mr. Herman Trelle of Wembley, whose farm is 12 miles west of Grande Prairie, won the following awards at the International Grain and Hay Show at Chicago:

THIRD PRIZE for Hard Red Spring Wheat in 1923.

GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP for Hard Red Spring Wheat in 1926.

GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP for Oats in 1926.

FIRST PRIZE for Hard Red Spring Wheat in 1927.

RESERVE CHAMPIONSHIP for Hard Red Spring Wheat in 1927.

GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP for Oats in 1927.

RESERVE CHAMPIONSHIP for Peas in 1927.

GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP for Peas in 1928.

RESERVE CHAMPIONSHIP for Wheat in 1928.

From the crop of three successive seasons, viz: 1926, 1927 and 1928, Mr. Trelle has won 186 prizes at leading United States and Canadian shows, 179 of these being firsts, championships, trophies and specials.

Robert Cochrane was a prize-winner in Oats, Alfalfa and Timothy Seed on more than one occasion at the Chicago International.

Percy U. Clubine is another man who distinguished himself by winning first at Chicago in peas.

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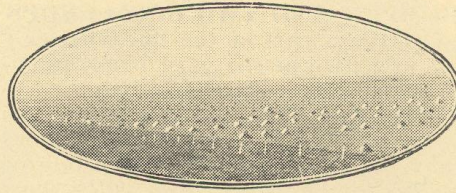
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Heavy yields are reported from the experimental plots on the Beaverlodge Station. From 1922 to 1927, inclusive, these have been obtained from areas from which the border drills were removed before harvest, the yields being thus obtained from the portions growing under field conditions of competition with no advantage over commercial fields, save that weeds are hand-pulled as may be required. Moisture determinations of the grain are made when it is not harvested in prime condition and the yields accordingly expressed in terms of clean, dry grain with a twelve-percent moisture content. (The legal moisture limit for dry grain is 14.4 percent). Since 1927 the yields have been obtained from well replicated plots of smaller size, but still the conditions of field competition are closely approximated or maintained.

Experimental Plot Yields—Beaverlodge

Cereal	No. of Varieties	Yields in bus. per acre	
1926 (Drilled Plots)—			
Spring Wheat	9.....	55.75 to	68. bus.
Winter Wheat (Turkey Red).....	1.....		60. bus.
Winter Rye	1.....		47. bus.
Oats	12.....	88.75 to	151.75 bus.
Barley	7.....	67.5 to	93.5 bus.
Peas	5.....	52. to	58. bus.
Common Buckwheat	1.....		45. bus.
Premost Flax	1.....		16.5 bus.
1927 (Drilled Plots)—			
Spring Wheat	5.....	42.75 to	60.25 bus.
Oats	5.....	76. to	117.5 bus.
Barley	6.....	62.25 to	74.5 bus.
Peas	3.....	40. to	52. bus.
Common Buckwheat	1.....		25.5 bus.
Premost Flax	1.....		18.5 bus.
1928 (Rod Rows)—			
Spring Wheat	5.....	36.5 to	46. bus.
Winter Wheat (Turkey Red)	1.....	41.75	bus.
Winter Rye	1.....		45.75 bus.
Oats	4.....	100.5 to	118.5 bus.
Barley	4.....	55.75 to	70.5 bus.
Peas	3.....	41.5 to	44.75 bus.
Common Buckwheat	1.....		27.5 bus.
Premost Flax	1.....		17.75 bus.
1929 (Rod Rows)—			
Spring Wheat	5.....	30.75 to	39.25 bus.
Winter Wheat, (Turkey Red).....	1.....	34.5	bus.
Winter Rye	1.....		55. bus.
Oats	4.....	68.5 to	88. bus.
Barley	5.....	42.75 to	54. bus.
Peas	3.....	48. to	53. bus.
Premost Flax	1.....		19.75 bus.

LONG-TERM-AVERAGE YIELDS

Marquis Wheat, 15 years.....	36 bus. 34 lbs.
Victory Oats, 14 years.....	86 bus. 25 lbs.
O.A.C. No. 21 Barley, 14 years	40 bus. 19 lbs.
Arthur Peas, 15 years	25 bus. 33 lbs.
Premost Flax, 12 years.....	12 bus. 51 lbs.
*Turkey Red Winter Wheat, 10 years.....	26 bus.
Winter Rye, 10 years	40 bus. 25 lbs.

*Comprehending two years in which winter killing was extensive.

Average Number of Days to Maturity	Average Yield	
	Bus.	Lbs.
1922-1929		
Garnet 116.1	35	34
Reward 116.0	34	22
Marquis 121.9	36	48

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MEADOW CROPS—

Western rye and brome are the best adapted grasses; alfalfa and sweet clover the best legumes. Excepting alfalfa, all the common meadow crops may be depended upon to ripen good yields of nice seed, and even alfalfa has done so at the Beaverlodge station for a number of years.

Considerable timothy seed has been grown in the district and large quantities are sold to wholesale seed companies and other parties, who realize that the clean fields of the Peace River Country produce a quality second to none in any part of Western Canada.

VEGETABLES—

All the staple hardy vegetables may be grown successfully and the quality is super-excellent. A 44-pound Copenhagen Market cabbage was raised in Pouce Coupe in 1923 by a soldier settler, S. H. Tuck. Tomatoes produce abundantly and occasionally ripen a proportion of their fruit in the open.

FRUITS—

The Beaverlodge Sub-Station annually raises crops of small fruits rivalling, if not excelling, anything that can be grown elsewhere in the Prairie West. In 1924 two varieties of red currants each yielded at the rate of 15½ pounds per bush. In 1926 one kind of white currants averaged 15¾ pounds per bush, and a red variety 12 1-3 pounds. In that same year, from a cultivated row of Saskatoon bushes about twenty rods long, there were picked 144 quarts of fruit and not over half the crop was recovered at that. In 1927 Herbert raspberries produced at the rate of 5,950 pounds per acre; in 1928, 3,171 pounds, and in 1929, 4,790 pounds. The raspberries are laid down for the winter.

Strawberries and gooseberries are more moderately successful.

Many settlers are getting into small fruits.

Seedling apples were for several years ripened by the late Mrs. Mary Thompson, and in 1929 the Beaverlodge Station matured nice crab apples on several trees. Manitoba wild plums, sand cherries and sand-cherry-plum hybrids have fruited at scattered points.

WILD FRUITS—

Wild fruits include strawberries, raspberries, red and black currants, pembinas, blueberries and cranberries. Saskatoons are found growing throughout the district in lavish abundance.

SHRUBS AND FLOWERS—

Caragena, Tartarian honeysuckle and Chinese lilacs seem absolutely hardy; while common lilacs, spireas, native honeysuckle, mountain ash, Russian olive and many other choice ornamentals have been grown. Exotic trees showing more or less promise include Manitoba scrub oaks, elms and basswoods. Successful herbaceous perennials number the peony, iris, larkspur, lavatera, hollyhock, and many others. Annual flowers are a riotous success. Wild roses grow profusely, and choice cultivated varieties succeed with winter protection. In 1928 a General McArthur rose bush bloomed practically without cover until October 10th, and in 1929 until October 17th. This was on an elevated slope on the Beaverlodge Station, where in 1929 fully one hundred species of ornamental trees, shrubs and vines were growing, most of these having survived one or more winters.

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Grande Prairie



MIXED FARMING

While straight grain growing has been popular, the Grande Prairie District is best adapted to mixed farming. This does not necessarily mean mixed farming as practised in the east. The northern mixed farmer keeps one or two lines of livestock that will fit in with his grain growing program, in most cases still making wheat or seed oats his main source of income.

The sale of livestock, or livestock products, should take care of the cash outlay for farm operations. This class of farmer is on much safer ground than the straight grain grower.

BEEF CATTLE—

Large numbers of beef cattle have been raised in the district. They find their most profitable place, however, as a sideline on the grain farm. Progressive farmers are finding the winter feeding of cattle quite profitable.

DAIRYING—

The district offers many opportunities to those interested in dairying. The dairy cow has been the salvation of many in the newer districts.

SHEEP—

Sheep raising is on the increase: they fit in admirably on the grain farm and assist appreciably in weed control. Most sections of the district are well suited to sheep raising.

HOGS—

The hog, the complement of the dairy cow, thrives in the north and has an important place in the district. Northern hogs have established a very high reputation for quality. Bacon type breeds predominate. The co-operative shipping rate to Edmonton Stock Yards, which includes freight, feed en route, insurance and all yardage and selling costs, is \$1.00 per 100 pounds—a very reasonable rate.

POULTRY—

Poultry raising is an important source of income in the district. Approved Flocks Associations are now being organized in the district by the poultry specialist of the Provincial Department of Agriculture. The aim is to place 100 high producing hens on every farm.

Turkey raising is, and has been, popular. Carloads of dressed turkeys are assembled by the producers' co-operative each fall and shipped to Eastern and Pacific Coast centres.

Three Hotels in One

THE MURRAY—The Family Hotel
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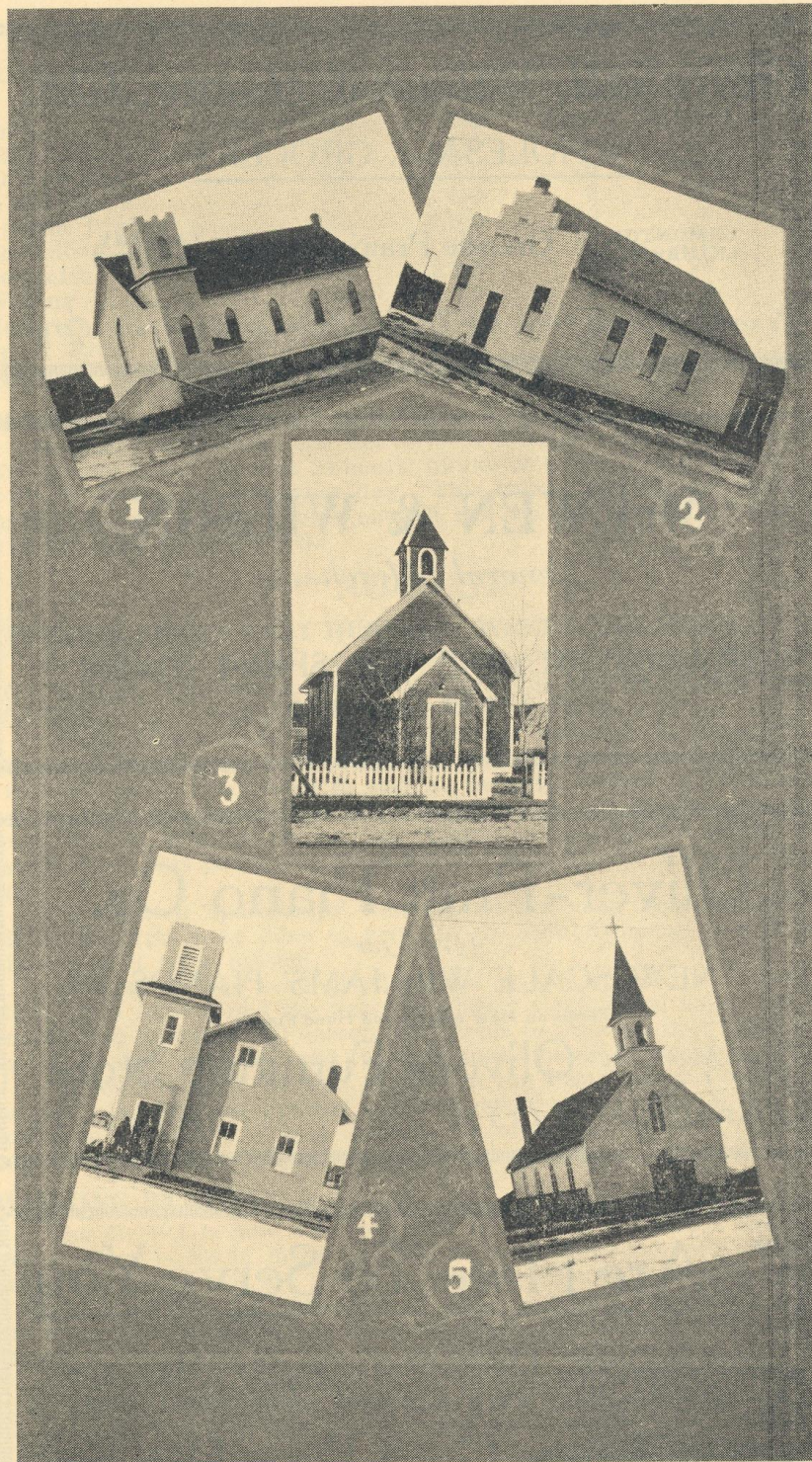
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For general information on land prices, freight rates, auto roads, schools, frost and hail conditions, water supply, prices of live-stock, etc., etc., kindly write to

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GRANDE PRAIRIE

ALBERTA



GRANDE PRAIRIE CHURCHES

1, United Church. 2, Salvation Army Citadel. 3, Anglican Church. 4, Baptist Church. 5, Roman Catholic Church. (Photos by C. W. Field)

Exports of Livestock from Grande Prairie District, Year 1929

Statement of Cattle, Calves, Hogs, Sheep and Horses shipped from points on the Northern Alberta Railways during the year 1929.

From	Cattle & Calves	Hogs	Sheep	Horses	Total
Hythe	750	4,880	0	41	5,670
Beaverlodge	200	1,680	0	100	1,980
Wembley	75	1,760	0	0	1,835
Grande Prairie	275	1,840	0	0	2,115
Clairmont	25	960	85	0	1,070
Sexsmith	550	3,520	85	20	4,175
Woking	25	0	0	0	25
Roycroft	125	320	0	0	445
Spirit River	225	1,920	170	20	2,335
TOTAL	2,250	16,880	340	180	19,650

BEES—

A colony of bees on the Beaverlodge Station attained a weight of 550 pounds gross, the best 24-hours' intake of nectar being 20½ pounds, with 20 pounds on one other day. This colony yielded 280 pounds of surplus honey, besides stores enough for the two strong colonies into which it had to be divided.

NO RUST**FREEDOM FROM PLANT DISEASES, WEEDS AND PESTS—**

Dr. Margaret Newton of the Dominion Rust Research Laboratory of Winnipeg, Manitoba, made certain investigations during the summer of 1927, and in speaking of the Peace River Country, said

"During the past spring the government supplied the Experimental Farm at Beaverlodge with samples of several varieties of grain which are particularly susceptible to rust, to be sown under conditions which would be highly favorable to the invasion of rust, the purpose being to determine whether or not the climate of the district would prove favorable to this particular plant disease, if it should make its appearance.

"In addition 'spore traps' were established near these experimental plots and everything done to promote the establishment of this plant disease, if it were present.

"Despite all the care given to the promotion of rust," said Dr. Newton, "I have found the fields absolutely clean. Even where we have endeavored by traps and susceptible grains to promote it, I was able to find only eight pustules, and these of questionable character.

"When you have no sign of rust in the Peace River Country this season, you may rest assured you will never need to fear it, for every condition favorable to this disease has been promulgated. It simply is not there."

WARNING RE WEEDS—

The district is now relatively free of the worst noxious weeds and every effort is being made to keep it so. Both the provincial and municipal authorities are taking every precaution to enforce the regulations and prevent the spreading of noxious weeds. Incoming settlers are warned to see to it that their machinery is carefully cleaned before shipping, as required by "The Noxious weeds Act."

Good clean seed can be purchased here at reasonable prices and it is suggested that settlers do not bring seed grain with them.

BEAR IN MIND that settlers' cars are inspected upon arrival.

PESTS—

There are no gophers or rats in the Peace River Country. Saw-fly damage is not experienced. The period of grasshopper damage has passed and in the opinion of entomologists will not recur within twenty or twenty-five years.

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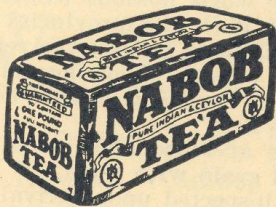
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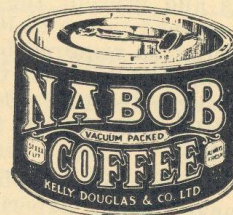
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NATURAL RESOURCES

Nature has bountifully endowed the Grande Prairie District with unlimited natural resources. Here is to be found merchantable timber (spruce, jack-pine and tamarac); not to mention any quantity of poplar suitable for fuel. Coal for domestic use can be obtained from a number of local mines at a very low figure. The rivers and lakes teem with fish. Fur is still plentiful, as shown by the annual amount exported; while the presence of wild fowl in large numbers, and big game such as moose, deer and bear proclaim the district as a sportsman's paradise.



A LOGGING SCENE NEAR GRANDE PRAIRIE

RAILWAY TRANSPORTATION

The Northern Alberta Railways serves the Grande Prairie District and gives first-class passenger service, their trains carrying standard sleepers and dining cars as well as first-class day coaches. The railway now operates to Hythe, a distance of 445.3 miles from Edmonton, Alta., and a further extension of 50 miles will be made this year, which will bring the line into the "Peace River Block" in the Province of British Columbia.

The passenger, freight, telegraph and express rates which are now in effect are the same as apply in the three Prairie Provinces. These low rates and the contemplated extension of the railway should help this district materially and act as an incentive to much further development.

A tri-weekly passenger service went into effect on June 1st, 1930, replacing the former bi-weekly service.

LAND SEEKERS' FARES

Special reduced fares of two (2) cents per mile are also granted from Edmonton, Alta., to all points on the Northern Alberta Railways to bona fide settlers from the United States on surrender, within sixty (60) days from date of issue, of certificate issued by Canadian Government Land Agents, in the United States, or to bona fide settlers from a point in Canada (East, South or West of Edmonton, Alta.) on surrender within ten (10) days from date of issue, of certificate issued by Canadian National Railways Departments of Colonization and Agriculture Officials, or Canadian Pacific Railway department of Colonization and Natural Resources, Edmonton, Alta. The one way settlers' fare from Edmonton, Alta., to Grande Prairie, Alta., is \$8.10 and the

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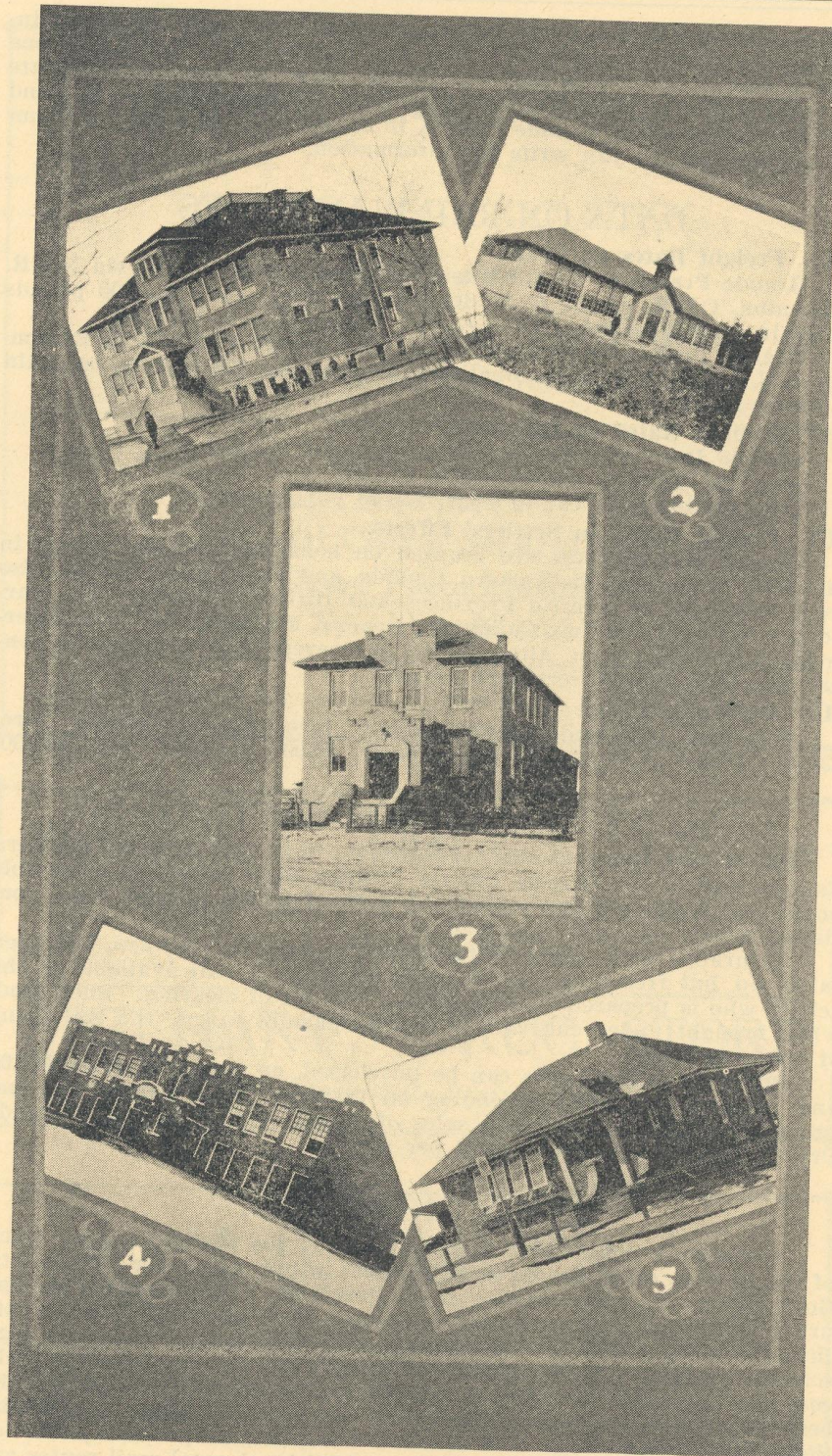
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1. Grande Prairie Ppblie School. 2. Grande Prairie R.C. Separate School.
3. Court House. 4. Grande Prairie High School.
5. Alberta Government Telephone Building. —Photo by C. W. Field.