

from four to ten feet high, so that they are easily accessible and no land is wasted by their course. The importance of these streams cannot well be over estimated. They rarely if ever dry in the hottest of summer, and there are several springs which flow throughout the winter. It has been shown many times that cattle cannot be successfully raised in mixed farming except in a well watered district, and it is this mixed farming which includes the raising of in the aggregate a vast number of cattle which is the kind that pays and which insures to the farmer dividends no matter what the weather is and no matter how poorly his cereal crop may turn out.

Transportation Facilities

In addition to these natural advantages Austin is singularly well favored by the railways. It is situated on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, 85 miles distant from Winnipeg and 50 miles from Brandon, and is connected with these centres by railway, telegraph and telephone whilst the surrounding country is linked up with the rural phone system of the provincial government.

The Canadian Pacific Railway gives a service of four passenger trains a day each way and two local freight trains. The Grand Trunk Pacific, two miles to the north, gives a service of two passenger trains daily, and it is indeed hard to put a cash value on these advantages alone, which the resident in this district has over the homesteader in the West.

In addition to this, however, in the village itself there is a resident doctor, eight stores, blacksmith shop and livery barn.

Owing to the comparatively short haul to the lakes the railways are able to quote cheaper rates both for carrying of grain destined for export and also for the importation of machinery and the necessities of life, so that while the cost of production of everything for export is less and the profits consequently greater, the cost of living is also lower and the saving on this is added to the credit side of the profit and loss account of the Manitoba farmer.

While the Canadian Pacific Railway practically divides the district of Austin into two nearly equal portions, it also forms the line of demarcation between two districts which differ much in their topographical aspects, these varying as already described from a plain of rich black loam to a series of hills and valleys. Both are entirely suitable for mixed farming and while in the hillier country the soil is generally the heavier and will produce a larger crop of wheat to the acre the nature of the land makes it less suitable for the use of heavy machinery such as may be used on the more level land, so that while it is usual for the farmer in this locality to raise crops averaging from 40 to 45 bushels to the acre, the farmer on the plains in the same amount of time can get a larger area under cultivation at a lower rate of expense. Both districts contain ample pasturage and splendid hay meadows and are well watered by numerous creeks.

Do Not Depend on Cereal Crop Alone

While in Saskatchewan enormous tracts of land are cropped by individual owners the loss by unseasonable weather, heavy wind or hail storms or from some other cause, is correspondingly heavy; in Manitoba, if the cereal

crop were to be an entire failure the outlook for the farmers would even then be very fair as the cattle which they raise would save them from serious reverses. It is this which is bringing cattle into favor, and it is in Manitoba that the greatest advancement is being made along this line.

Herds of Pure Bred Cattle

There are several herds of Hereford, Polled Angus and Shorthorn cattle in the district, and the breeding of these herds has done much to improve the general stamp of grade cattle in their vicinity. Large shipments of superior grass fed cattle go out every year and some attempt at winter feeding both in stables and in the open have been made with good results.

Owing to the richness and varied nature of the native grasses, it is only in the last few years that any attention has been paid to cultivated pasture, but Timothy, Red Clover, Alsac and Alfalfa have proved to be well adapted to the soil and profitable crops to handle.

Though the distances between dwellings has prevented the establishment of dairies and creameries on a large scale this will be an important industry of the future and one which will play a large part in the success of the district. With the re-organizing of the large farms into smaller holdings, the creameries will have a splendid opportunity to pay dividends to both stockholders and farmers.

While the Western prairies have been denuded of timber by centuries of prairie fires which could range for hundreds of miles unchecked, the numerous water courses in this district acted as natural fire guards, with the result that the countryside is interspersed with bluffs containing trees of varying size up to two feet in diameter forming admirable shelters and building sites, and on the banks of the larger streams in addition to the rapid growing poplar and willow there is a fair supply of elm, ash and maple, reminding one of scenes in Europe or the New England States.

In fact there are few districts in this vast country of ours where such a variety of soil, scenery and vegetation can be met with in such close proximity to one another, offering attractions to settlers of the most varied inclinations and tastes.

Do you wish for the level prairie where you can have your grain field of 160 acres without stick, stone or hindrance to the plow? We have it.

Do you wish for the large open hay meadow where you can turn the water on at will and keep the mower at work for days without a stop? We have it.

Do you crave for a rich pasture where cattle can browse amid vetch and wild pea with woods where they can find shade and shelter from the flies in summer and from the chilly wind and snow storm in winter without the necessity of buildings or artificial shelters? We have it.

Do you hesitate to part from the hills and valleys of your native land to exchange them for the vast prairie farm, from whose monotony the eye can find no rest, nor limit save the horizon? We can give you a home amongst hills where you can forget that you live in a prairie province.

Are you looking for a rich clay soil that seems to desire nothing but to be assisted to grow a wheat crop for you year after year that will compete with any other locality for