

Schools, churches, good roads and drainage are what we are most in need of. The necessary steps are being taken all over the Valley for securing the first school. Very soon, thanks to intelligent and public spirited farmers like Mr. Orr, who have interested themselves in this matter, we shall have public schools dotting here and there in the Valley.

There is no lack either of missionary enterprise, the Baptists, Presbyterians, Anglicans and Methodists have missionaries in the field who are doing good work. Services are held regularly in the best settled parts of the district in private houses. In the town, the Baptists use the Waverly Temperance Hotel, the Presbyterians occupy Heming's Hall and Methodists, Code's Hall. The last denomination intend erecting a substantial church next summer in the town.

With regard to drainage, very little has been accomplished yet. A main drain has been dug by the railway company from the corner of Fifth Avenue along Main to the railway track down the river. It was intended to make a drain commencing at the printing office, Fifth Avenue, across several streets to the river. Should we have a wet spring, the inhabitants of Swan River will have plenty of boating.

With regard to improving the roads, nothing yet has been done. A strong deputation will no doubt interview the government at its first session and it will, we are sure, receive the consideration and encouragement a new country has a right to expect. If Hugh John's government fulfills the promises made, as we believe in good faith, by the Greenway government prior to the elections, then we will have nothing to complain of.

We are unable in this limited space to do our subject justice. It is our intention in a few weeks, to devote a whole issue to the "Swan River District".

SUB-COMMISSIONER H. HARLEY'S REPORT

To the Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg.

Sir - I have much pleasure in being able to give you a favorable report of the Swan River District in connection with Immigration and Dominion Lands.

This district has proved very attractive through the past year. There has been a steady influx of people. The Canadian Northern Railway Co'y have built sixty miles of railway through this district with three stations in the Valley, which is a great benefit to the new settlers. There are three new towns started already. The eastern one on the Favel river is called "Minitonas". The northern one, called "Bowsman", is on the Bowsman river. The central one is beautifully situated on the banks of the Swan river, from which it takes its name, and is on Section 21, Tp. 36, Range 27 at the crossing of the Canadian Northern Railway.

This place, though only two months old, has sixty-five buildings and a population of three hundred. The population of the district is now two thousand, four hundred and thirteen. There is now one thousand, three hundred and fifty acres of land ploughed and ready for seeding next spring. The crops grown here during the past season were splendid; the samples of wheat, oats and barley were very fine. Potatoes and turnips and all kinds of vegetables were a good crop.

The first frost we had in the fall was on the morning of September the eighteenth. There has been a large number of cattle and some choice thoroughbreds brought into this district during the year.

A very large amount of railway lands have been sold at good prices.