

The Provost Realty Co.
Real Estate, Loans, Fire and Life
Insurance.
Office in Provost Drug Store.

The Provost Star

The Provost Realty Co.
Agent for North of Scotland Loan
Co.
General Fire Insurance Co.
Continental Life Insurance Co.
Office in Provost Drug Store.

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PROVOST, ALBERTA, MARCH 18, 1910.

\$1.00 a Year in Advance.

Provost.

A long time ago the Pilgrim Fathers crossed the Atlantic in the Mayflower and landed at Plymouth Rock. Their descendants now form a mighty nation. Two years ago the first resident of Provost crossed the plains in a prairie schooner, and erected the first building on the townsite. His descendant now number about 250 people.

If we say, then, that Provost is two years old, and stop at that, a dozen, perhaps a hundred towns could be named that have had a more rapid development. But when we remember that the railroad did not reach us till last December, about four months ago, our sinking pride revives, and we begin to regard ourselves with wonder. Not many towns, even in the pioneer West, can be named that against such difficulties have achieved so much. Where, for instance, is there another town that could boast of a Chartered Bank a year before the railway service was inaugurated? Or where is there another Bank besides that represented in Provost that has sent its men, and loaned its safe and supplies and money, 65 miles, and that in the depths of an unusually severe winter? What districts in the West can make a better showing than this, that we have in practically the first year of our farming operations shipped out 30,000 bushels of wheat? And the grain season is not by any means closed as yet.

Granting that the average price paid for wheat this season is 80 cents per bushel, and the greater part of it has graded No. 2 Northern, which is worth 81 cents today, we see that the farmers here have received \$24,000 for their crop. In addition to this there have been sold about 2,000 bushels of flax, which at \$1.25 per bushel, realized \$2,500.

Compared with those of older districts these figures are not large, but as a beginning they are very encouraging. The acreage under crop next year will be greatly increased and with a favorable crop and good prices, our figures should be easily trebled.

Of course this \$26,000 does not by any manner of means represent the amount of money that has been spent here this year. Capital has of necessity been brought in, and many of the farmers are capitalizing their business by securing mortgage loans on their holdings. In older and more conservative countries this practice would be looked upon with holy horror, but in this country of hope and opportunity, where the virgin land will produce 25 or 30 bushels of wheat to the acre as soon as it is ploughed, the young farmer realizes that borrowing money on the security of his land, for the improvement of the same, is good business. Foreclosure is not a word in his vocabulary.

As Provost is in the centre of a rich farming area, it is impossible to speak of the town without referring to the farmer and what he is doing. The growth of Provost depends upon the growth of wheat. If the farmer in the Provost district is successful, the merchant in Provost will be successful. No law in economics is truer than that, none is more simple. Fortunately, for the town, the class of farmers in the vicinity is as superior as the land. Both are of the first quality. Many of these agriculturists have come here from the States and Eastern Canada with considerable wealth in worldly goods, and what is perhaps more important—a wealth of experience in their lines. Farming in these days is like everything else, a science, and the farmer who thinks most will sell the most grain, just as the merchant who thinks most will sell the most goods. Of course this thought process must be along the right channels in each case.

We are fast emerging from our primitive condition of a year ago. We have a train service, which although it may not be a triumph of railroad operating, is nevertheless a very great improvement on the long, lone trail of last year. Next summer, moreover, we can confidently expect a service that will be equal to any in Western Canada, as this line is bound to be a very important one to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. We are no longer isolated from the rest of the world, and by means of the telegraph we can get in instant touch with any and all the great Canadian and American centres. We no longer lack hotel accommodations, and judging from the number of commercial travellers that stop here, we are justified in assuming that we have the best hotel on the line. This means much for the town. The drummer is a good advertiser.

In every department we are well organized, and upon the executive work in every campaign depends to a large extent the victory. The village has its Council, the merchants their Board of Trade. The farmers are organized under their Farmers' Union, and are about to form a Local Improvement District,

which will give them greater self governing powers and the opportunity to effect needed public works. There is also a live political organization, the Liberal Association, which by keeping in touch with affairs at the two capitals, can secure in a large measure fair play to the electors of this district. In things spiritual we are splendidly provided for, and may worship if we choose in any of six denominations. Educationally, we are not neglected. We have a good school with an efficient staff of teachers.

Hence, it is apparent from the foregoing that we are a people peculiarly blessed. We have been struggling for some few years against the hardships incident to a pioneer life. But the struggle has given us strength, and in the light of present achievement we look forward with cheery hope to the future. The years that are to come will not be idle years, but are not firm believers in the doctrine of work?

A petition to The Minister of Public Works asking that this Village be placed under the "Land Assessment system" was recently circulated through the Village and received the assent of the majority of the Tax-payers. This petition was the result of a unanimous vote of the Village Council that the "Land Assessment system" be adopted.

Numerous questions have been asked as to the meaning of this system of taxation, putting the matter briefly it means: "Taxing the lot in the Village without regard to the improvements thereon."

By the adoption of this system an incentive is undoubtedly given to the erection of first class buildings. Many a man who could afford to erect a building which would be a credit to the town is deterred from doing so when he realizes that he will be taxed to the fullest extent for every dollar he expends and therefore contents himself with a building which barely serves his purpose because he is afraid of the taxes he will be called upon to pay.

Under the Land Assessment system the man who contemplates the erection of an up-to-date building can do so, feeling secure in the thought that his efforts to improve the appearance of the Village will not be met by an increased demand for taxes. His taxes for the lot and building will be no more than he would have been called upon to pay in respect of the lot without the building.

Under this system the speculator who is holding lots in the Village is called upon to pay his full share of the cost of sidewalks, road improvements, and other expenses of the Village.

The system has been adopted by several Villages in the Province and it is in every instance working in an entirely satisfactory manner.

Our Village Council is to be congratulated on its foresight.

The Mock Parliament met on Friday evening with Speaker McKay in the chair. Hon. C. Coffee introduced his Women Suffrage Bill with an eloquent appeal that women be granted her rights. Mr. Coffee's speech was little use in opposing this measure for the simple reason that women have made up their minds to have it. Mr. Watson from Skidsborough, who by no way enjoys the bliss of Batchellordom was not disposed to agree with the arguments of Mr. Coffee. The bill however received its second reading.

The leader of the Govt. Hon. Mr. West from Skibo Castle introduced his Naval Bill to construct, own and man a Canadian Navy. In an able address he pointed out the consistency of the government's course in dealing with this public question and also showed that the policy of the opposition was one prolonged wobble. Dr. McColgan, leader of the opposition took the stand that we had reached a stage when such an idea as building a Navy was relic of barbarism. The Hon. Mr. McPaul from Pettifoggery in an able effort scored the opposition for the position which they took on the great question. Mr. Rippingale of Oxbow made the government's arguments for their policy look like a broken sieve.

The Hon. Mr. Johnson, Minister of Agriculture in a burst of emotion announced his intention of breaking with the government on their naval policy. He advocated a contribution from Canada to the British Navy as a matter of insurance. It was a matter of great grief to Mr. Johnson that he was compelled to break from his honored and beloved leader.

On a discussion the Bill was defeated and with it the government.

Things are beginning to look bright in the building line. Lumber men are stocking up heavy and they claim there is a number of inquiries regarding lumber, etc. from both town and country.

Land seekers will have no trouble in getting land guides to locate them from this point, as we believe there are already about four or five advertising themselves in this line of business. But as to who the Government official land guide will be is not definitely known.

C.O.F. Organize Large Court.

On Thursday, February 24th, in McNeil & McClean Hall, thirty-one citizens of Provost and surrounding district assembled together for the purpose of instituting a subordinate Court of Canadian Order of Foresters. F. S. White, general organizer, for the Province of Alberta officiated as the instituting officer.

The meeting was called to order at 9 p. m., and after the general routine of business connected with the organization, the officers were nominated, elected and installed to their respective offices, namely:

CHIEF RANGER—Bro. Geo. A. King.
VICE CHIEF RANGER—Bro. H. C. Briggshaw.

FINANCIAL SEC.—Bro. S. Dunbar.
RECORDING SEC.—Bro. Roy Beaton.

TREASURER—Bro. P. O. Foss.
CHAIRMAN—Bro. R. C. Taylor.

SR. WOODWARD—Bro. Joe Ernewin.
JR. WOODWARD—Bro. E. A. Dodds.

SR. BEADLE—Bro. Phil Schumacher.
JR. BEADLE—Bro. Robt. Dodds.

ADDRESS—Bro. D. Johnston.
COMMISSIONER—Bro. N. Agar.

COURT PHYSICIAN—Bro. A. McColgan, M. D.

Brother John Campbell was recommended to the high and honorable office of Past Chief Ranger for the balance of this term.

Brother Geo. A. King was conducted to his post as Chief Ranger amid loud applause, after which he appointed the following committees, namely:

FINANCE COMMITTEE—Bro. F. Larson, E. Olsen and J. Russell.

TREASURERS—Bro. G. Johnson, A. McColgan and G. W. McNeil.

After the officers elect took their respective positions, discussion arose as to the name of our Court. There were many suggestions but it was finally decided upon that it be named as Court Provost.

The next order of business, Good and Welfare. Some very interesting and enthusiastic addresses were delivered by the newly elected officers and other Brethren of the Order.

Before closing of Court in due form it was unanimously decided upon to hold the Charter open until our next meeting on Wednesday evening, March 2nd, at 8 o'clock sharp, to give any person the privilege of making application to become a charter member of this "Court Provost, Canadian Order of Foresters."

Any information regarding the Order will be cheerfully given by Bro. White or any other of the above mentioned officers or Brethren.

We might just add that much credit is due Bro. Jno. L. Campbell, J. H. Dodds and F. S. White, general organizer, for the able manner in which they brought together such good desirable material on the formation of this Court.

The press came.

Jake Ehlinger has accepted a position as tinsmith with the Larson & Gravett Hardware Co.

Mr. Morgan of Cadogan was a business visitor in town Wednesday. Mr. Morgan intends to hold monthly auction sales at Cadogan. The first sale will be held on April 5th, 1910.

Rev. J. E. McKay was an Lacombe and Edmonton visitor last week and on return home spent a couple of days with his brother at Laughhead.

Swan Olson of Edmonton a visit last week.

Messrs. Larson & Gravett, hardware merchants are putting in box fittings for shelf hardware which will add to the appearance of the store considerably.

Somelody said mad dog on Sunday March 13. Our local hardware merchant Mr. McNeil came in contact with what was thought to be a mad dog. The pup was the property of N. J. Russell and was known at times to show his better temper and showed it when he met Mr. McNeil on Sunday and of course Mack being somewhat of an Irishman would not stand for any back talk from the pup. So at it they went the pup with teeth of pure ivory and Mack with a 40 pound shovel. After 12 rounds of furious fighting Mack gave the pup a Jeffery jolt and he was counted out by referee Major Poutier.

The many friends of Mr. Jno Patton will be glad to hear that he is now able to get around a little and we hope to see Mr. Patton at his old post again taking the place of the dusty miller.

Foss & Brue

THE Pioneer Store

Dealers in
Groceries, Dry Goods, Clothing,
Boots and Shoes, etc. etc.

A Complete Line of Fresh Groceries at Right Prices.

Equal Rights to All
Special Privileges to None.

Watch this space next week
Special Reduction on all Winter Goods.

N. A. Kilburn

Real Estate and Financial Agent.

Notary Public — Conveyancer.

Provost, Alta.

Agent for C.P.R. Co's Land and Townsite
Agent for Hudson's Bay Co's Lands.

If you are in the market to either buy or sell wild or improved land. SEE ME.

I have Money to Loan on Improved Farms and Town Property.

Strictest Confidence Observed.

Lowest Rates of Interest.

Terms of repayment to suit the borrower.

No delay.

It is a well established rule of economics that the young man who would rise with the Sun should not stay up later than ten o'clock with the slaughter.

INSURANCE—When you don't insure your property with me, you are gambling with Providence that it won't burn. Don't gamble. It never pays; but come today and have me insure any property that you own, either in town or in the country.

N. A. Kilburn.

City Livery, Feed and Sale Stable

FOR

Good Rigs, Fast horses and Careful Drivers.
Special Attention given Commercial Trade.
Good Horses and Strong Rigs always on Hand
for the Convenience of Land Seekers and our
Prices are as low as the Lowest.

Horses bought and sold.

Carter & Howe

Provost

Alberta.

Church Notices.

METHODIST CHURCH.

Divine Services every Sunday Evening at 7:30.

A hearty invitation given to all to attend.

REV. R. T. HARDIN, Pastor.

St. Paul's Church of England.

Divine Services every Sunday evening at 7:30.

Visitors cordially welcome.

Choir practice, Friday at 8 p.m.

E. S. MEYER, Catechist in Charge.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Services every Sabbath morning at 11 o'clock in the Methodist Church.

All cordially welcome.

REV. JAR. G. MCKAY, B. A., Pastor.

BAPTIST CHURCH.

Services held every Sunday at 3 p.m. in the Methodist Church.

All cordially invited.

J. E. PENNELLY, B. A., Pastor.

UNION SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Held every Sunday in the Methodist Church at 3 p.m.

Mothers, it is your place to see that your children attend the Sunday school.

THOS. FLEMING, Superintendent.

Have You

tried a bottle of

Syrup of White
Pine and Tar Compound

for that cough, if
not get a bottle next
time you call at the

Provost Drug Co.

Provost, Alta.

Issuer of Marriage Licenses.



Welcome Home Everyone!
WE'RE GLAD YOU MADE IT BACK HOME!
Town of Provost, Mayor, Councillors and Staff