

CHAPTER FOUR

WHEREIN IS SHOWN the development of the hub of all activity with the coming of Camrose and the railway lines which, by 1915, veered in all directions from the town. The first Twenty-five years of Camrose is herein chronicled and brief sketched of the pioneers who built themselves into the town, and are still a part of its continued growth.

With fifty years of progress tucked behind the new City of Camrose, it is most interesting and enlightening to read the early history of this area.

The seven years following incorporation, in 1907, were perhaps the most concentrated upsurge recorded in the half century history of Camrose. For it was in these years that all the foundations for the industrial, commercial and residential expansions were laid.

EIGHT RAILWAY LINES

Those first seven years saw a tremendous amount of railway construction work take place. The era of railway development began with the construction of the C.P.R. line east and west extending through Winnipeg. This was followed by the construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific and the Canadian Northern Railway lines through Camrose to Calgary. The C.N.R. then built a 45-mile cut-off from Camrose to Edmonton, and in the spring of 1913 commenced work on the line southeast of Camrose heading for Regina to link up the capitals of the three prairie provinces.

Another hundred miles of this line was built in the following year. The Camrose Electoral District as it was then known, encompassed 47 townships, and was traversed by 300 miles of railway lines, constructed at a cost of \$20,000.00 per mile, and a total construction cost of six million dollars.

12 TRAINS DAILY

In the midsummer of 1914, twelve passenger trains passed through Camrose daily. The basis of Camrose development in those days was directly linked with the railways. The wholesale business included the large warehouses of the Alexander Grocery Company and the Camrose Grocery Company, each controlled by one of the largest grocery concerns on the continent. Georgenson & Company and G. F. and J. Galt companies erected the warehouses in the summer of 1910 and these buildings are still in use today. The Camrose Grocery is now the warehouse of MacDonald's Con-

solidated, and the Alexander Grocery is now the premises of the Alberta Seed Growers.

COAL OUTPUT 60,000 TONS

In 1907 only 5,000 tons of coal were mined yearly, while in 1914 the annual output had reached Alberta and Saskatchewan by over 60,000 tons, shipped all over way of the three transcontinental railway lines radiating from the town. Saskatchewan coal at this time retailed for eight to ten dollars a ton, and Camrose coal was selling for three to four dollars a ton.

The electric light and power plant, constructed at a cost of \$30,000.00 in 1911 was situated on the north bank of the Mirror Lake. An auxiliary dynamo and engine supplied the demand for continuous night and day service.

PROVINCIAL PHONE SYSTEM

The erection by the Provincial Government of a telephone exchange at Camrose, made the town a district headquarters for long-distance lines. Telephones then reached into all settled sections of Alberta, with Camrose geared to handle one-quarter of the Alberta system, both maintenance and operation. In 1914 there were 904 telephone subscribers — 301 in the towns, and 603 among the farmers in this constituency. Between 1907 and 1914, 734 miles of telephone pole lines, with 1,109 miles of wire, were constructed.

Practically no road construction was in effect in 1907, but seven years later the constituency boasted 400 miles of good roads which contained 80 new bridges and innumerable culverts. Farming was becoming more profitable, with land prices doubled, beef prices up, and the value of the grain crop had reached a million dollars annually. Eighty thousand acres of land was under cultivation, and the value of livestock had increased to well over two and a half million dollars by 1914.

In 1907, the rush of settlement was just taking place. Seven years later, with one million acres of arable land available in the constituency which encompassed a 40-mile radius around Camrose,

1,600 farms of 160 acres each boasted a farm population of 8,000 residents.

COLLEGE STARTED IN 1912

Educationally, Camrose laid its foundations early, for in addition to Public and High School facilities the Camrose Lutheran College was established in 1910 and incorporated by a special Act of the Province of Alberta in the Spring of 1913. The fact that Camrose was the centre of a large Norwegian settlement, gave the town preference over several suggested sites in Western Canada. The college grounds comprised 30 acres, had an enrollment of 100 students, 60 of whom were lodged in the building. The college curriculum comprised an academic course leading to university matriculation, a business course, and special courses in theology and music.

NORMAL SCHOOL

When the demand for school teachers became so great in the province that the Normal School at Calgary could not meet the requirements, the Department of Education found it necessary to build a new Normal School. By reason of the railway facilities, Camrose was chosen as the site of the \$250,000 building, completed in the fall of 1914. This building, now known as Rosehaven, was beautifully landscaped, as is still in evidence on a greater scale today.

No time was lost in having the Normal classes open in temporary quarters until such time as the stately building was completed. The coming of the Normal School established Camrose as a centre of education, and solidified and contributed to the steady and permanent development of educational facilities.

TAX RATE

Although the tax rate was lower than many towns and several cities, the town stuck to the single tax system. In addition to the usual assets, the town owned the water and sewer system, light and power plant, public market, exhibition grounds and buildings, municipal hospital, gravel pit and

industrial site property; making the town a municipal ownership town. Even with expansion, the town did not exercise more than half its borrowing power under its total assessment.

In addition to the wholesale businesses, other industrial outlets financed by local capital included a brick kiln which made use of the buff and red burning shales that were distributed extensively around Camrose. The first opera house was constructed with Camrose bricks.

TANNERY

The Camrose Tannery was the largest plant of its kind in the province, furnishing a market for local hides that were made into robes and leather for the farmers. Outside leather was also shipped in as production gained impetus. The Camrose Harness and Collar Company opened a factory, purchasing leather from the local tannery. Machinery was purchased by Francois Adam for a boot and shoe factory as well.

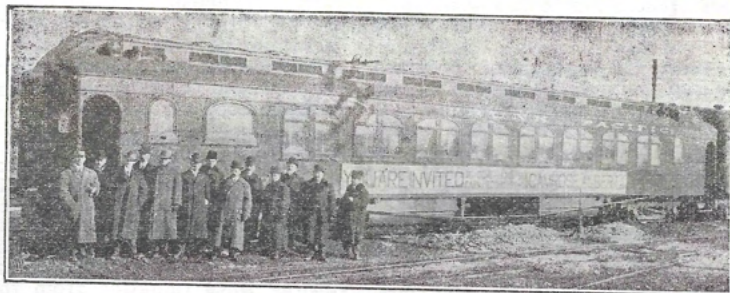
Business-wise, the seven-year

initial growth period of the infant town saw three banks, seven churches, schools, college and Normal School, three railway depots, a local newspaper (The Camrose Canadian), two hotels, all actively operating. Population-wise, the town had grown from a yearling with 412 persons to over the 2,000 mark, seven years later. At that time the Main Street boasted cement sidewalks and cluster lights — with the same present wide street we enjoy fifty years later!

Adventure in Promotion

A promotion scheme was initiated by a group of ambitious Camrose business men, and the party started from Camrose on February 24th, 1912, in a specially equipped railway passenger coach for a trip to Eastern Canada and points in the States. The trip was made at a cost of \$10,000.00. The party consisted of Frank P. Layton, Mayor of Camrose; Dennis Twomey, ex-Mayor; George P. Smith, M.P.P., Editor of the Camrose Canadian; Jabez Harris, President of the Board of Trade; Frank L. Farley, member of the Camrose Council; J. Watson Younge, ex-Alderman; M. A.

Maxwell, Town Engineer; Camille David, merchant; J. Sherman Fox, successful and representa-



tive farmer.

In every town that the train stopped the boomers received the best of treatment, being entertained by clubs, boards of trade, and various societies which seek to boost the welfare of cities.

Camrose 'FIRSTS'

Although the history of Camrose was not all made in the early days, perhaps a good deal of the most colorful history was written in the first few years of settlement.

The numerous versions of the Ole Bakken legend are known by most of the city's senior citizens. But established in fact is the situation of his homestead, the S.W. quarter of Sec. 2, Twp. 47, Rge. 20, W. 4th, with Stoney Creek running through the southwest corner, and on his farm a City in the making.

The townsite of Sparling had a modest beginning of eight blocks which increased in the real estate boom, until 1911, when the townsite was a surveyed area of 2 1/2 miles north and south, and 3 miles east and west.

The FIRST merchant was Duncan Sampson, who came from Little Current on the Manitoulan Island, Ontario. In May of 1904, Mr. Sampson erected a small store with a dwelling upstairs, on the road allowance on the west side of the townsite. Later, when the townsite was thrown open for sale, Mr. Sampson had the FIRST pick of the lots, purchasing Lot 4, Block 2, and moved his building to that location. The FIRST mail came by coach from Wetaskiwin, and reposed in a soap box in the Sampson store until a regular post office was opened. Henry Foucar was the FIRST postmaster in the regular office.

The FIRST lumber company, the Stoney Creek Lumber Company, was owned by Francois

Adam. K. O. Eggen had the FIRST harness shop; and John Gallagher, foreman for Phalen & Shirley, the FIRST office.

The FIRST store building, erected on the east side of the FIRST block of Main Street, was built by Andrew Carruthers, who had been operating a store and "stopping place" a mile north of the townsite. This structure was followed in close succession by a hardware store, erected by Hiram Burgar and Geo. Wallace; W. G. Duggan and Dennis Twomey bought Harry Foucar's hardware business; George Keeble and David Dufferin McLaren built a fancy goods and jeweler's store; Humphrey L. Higgs built a drug store; Francois Adam had an insurance office.

Dr. G. G. Stewart, the FIRST doctor, began medical practice in 1904, coming over from Bittern Lake. The FIRST newspaper, The Camrose Mail, was published by Captain T. Berville Thomas, with the FIRST issue on July 27, 1906.

FIRST Justice of the Peace was Francois Adam.

FIRST TRAIN—THE BLUE FLEA

By June of 1905, the railway grade had been completed. A bridge had been built over Stoney Creek, and the rails laid as far as Sparling. A mixed train come out in the afternoon, three times a week, turned on the "Y" and returned to Wetaskiwin. In the late fall of 1906, track had been laid to Daysland, and a daily passenger service on a local train, dubbed "The Blue Flea Special", was inaugurated be-

tween Wetaskiwin and Daysland.

Municipal organization began in May, 1905, when citizens of Sparling hamlet made application to the government of the North West Territories at Regina (autonomy not having been granted to the Province of Alberta until the fall of 1905) for incorporation as a village. Application was granted, and F. P. Layton was appointed the FIRST returning officer for the election of a village overseer, this being the only executive of the village at that time. The name of the returning officer was the only name nominated, so F. P. Layton declared himself elected as FIRST overseer by a very large majority.

On January 16, 1907, the village was raised to the dignity and status of a town, with Thomas Dahl elected as the FIRST mayor by acclamation.

The FIRST Town Council comprised the following: Abraham Code, George P. Smith, R. B. Price, Dennis Twomey, Albert Foucar and Edward R. Hjelm.

F. P. Layton was the FIRST fire chief of the volunteer fire department organized in 1907.

Dr. G. G. Stewart was the FIRST chairman of the FIRST school board, organized in June of 1905, and Miss Signe E. Spokkeli (Mrs. I. Z. Hills) was engaged as the FIRST teacher in the FIRST school, situated in the Presbyterian Church building.

The FIRST church service held in Sparling was conducted by Rev. Thomas Phillips, a Methodist minister located at Dried Meat Lake. The FIRST church building to be erected was the Lutheran Church.

Canada's Jubilee City

Incorporated as a City on its 50th. Anniversary,
January 1st., 1955.

CITY STATUS

Since the Jubilee Year for Alberta is coincident with the City of Camrose attaining its city status, it shall be attempted to present some of the reasons for the City's development. In order to grow, an urban community must provide the services a growing community finds need for. In this respect Camrose has certainly fulfilled its destiny.

The Camrose district was settled and developed primarily as a mixed farming enterprise. Agriculture is still the backbone of the district's general economy. Statistically, the Camrose district is the most densely populated agricultural area of Alberta. This indicates a high degree of potential production. While grains are a vital factor in the farm economy and wheat is always grown for the ready cash market, the feed grains to develop the livestock industry are a major factor. Beef cattle of the choicest varieties and quality are turned off the farms and the feed lots with clock-like regularity. Many farmers are consistent hog raisers, and hogs are, of course, a real factor in the farm economy of any district. Dairying has not, as yet, developed to the extent to which an outside observer might expect. The district is just outside the borders of the vast "milkshed" feeding into the City of Edmonton. But those who are going into this branch of agriculture in the Camrose district are establishing herds with breeding stock of the very highest standards, with the view to high production and ultimate development of the dairy industry.

Poultry raising has not been the factor here that many agricultural authorities would like; but the Camrose district has been a consistent shipper of Western Canada's high grade turkeys. It is not unusual for the Camrose district to ship out 200,000 lbs. of dressed turkeys in a single season.

COAL

Coal production has been a factor here, but not to the same extent as in the larger mining centres. With shallow coal seams near the surface, as well as deep seams at the 400 foot level, the early mines supplied the local coal demands, with considerable shipment to outside markets from the Round Hill mines. Then during World War II the new idea of strip mining was introduced, made possible by the development of the giant earth moving machines. The big strip mine at Camrose has a capacity of 100,000 tons per season, and when the war demand was at its peak the mine was producing to full capacity. The new strip mine at Hastings Coulee, with its major outlet through the C. N. R. at Camrose, has a production capacity of two

thousand tons a day, and is Western Canada's most outstanding example of this modern method of mining.

HYDRO ELECTRIC

The challenge to better living and to ultimate industrial expansion is provided by ample hydro electric power, through Calgary Power, which corporation purchased the Camrose municipally owned electric plant in 1908, as well as the Camrose waterworks system. Calgary Power maintains a central distribution station at Camrose as well as district administrative offices covering the territory as far east as Macklin, Sask.

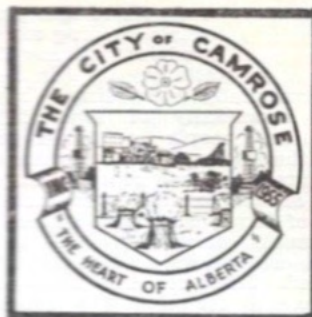
NATURAL GAS

The advent of natural gas has changed the fuel picture in Camrose, as it has done in many other cities and towns in Alberta. Camrose was hooked up to gas in 1945 and 1946, through Northwestern Utilities, the supply coming in from the Viking-Kinsella field, leading off from the huge gas mains feeding into the City of Edmonton, mid-way between Viking and Edmonton. Now it has been discovered that there is lots of gas in the oil wells around Camrose and what this will mean to the future is a matter for speculation.

THEN CAME OIL!

It was in February 1947 that the first oil strike was made in the Leduc field. It took a few weeks before the impact was fully realized, even at Leduc, let alone Edmonton and Calgary. People began to wonder here at Camrose what the prospects might be. By 1948 the district was swarming with geophysical crews making their technical surface surveys of the underground stratas. Then a drill test was made southwest of the present City, and the two dry holes gave the optimists a jolt. In 1950 a drilling rig was set up on the Flint property in the Duhamel-New Norway district. This well was the first marked success in the Camrose district field. Later, drilling on this structure demonstrated that the range of production was very limited, but where production was obtained it was on a very profitable scale. Oil is obtained here from the D2 and D3 zones, under very high pressure.

It was in October 1950 that the big strike was made in the North Armena field, which subsequently encouraged drilling all the way south-eastward, down through Camrose proper, and on past till now wells are pumping eight miles below the City. These are shallow wells, production comes out of the Viking Sands. The oil is "sweet", commanding a price premium. The wells are from 3300 to 3500 feet deep.



Their average potential is probably 50 barrels a day, and under conservation methods, are expected to produce from 30 to 50 years. Their output kept the Camrose field in third place volume of production for all of Alberta for many months, until the recent heavy production was obtained from the new Pembina field.

Two pipelines carry oil from the Camrose fields into Edmonton, the one line coming down into the Armena field from Joseph's Lake, and the second line reaching down below Stettler and gathering from all the intervening wells.

Hundreds of thousands of dollars quickly fell into the hands of landowners who held oil rights on their lands, and others benefitted to a lesser degree from payments made for surface rights. Millions of dollars were spent in drilling enterprises. Camrose as a town was called upon to house and service hundreds of technicians and their assistants. This gave a real upsurge to the local business economy.

Now that the oil industry has become stabilized, with drilling being continued on a very modest scale, there remains in Camrose only the operational staffs, the administration staffs, and the service personnel, but even still the volume of business brought to the City of Camrose through the medium of oil production and field development is of great economic importance to the community.

Since the material was compiled for this book two oil wells have been drilled to successful production within the actual City limits of Camrose.

THE SOURCES OF CIVIC PRIDE IN CAMROSE AS A CITY

Camrose gives its citizens and its shopping patrons many things to be proud of. The City of Camrose is an exceptional example of a Top Flight Shopping Centre. The Camrose merchants are really on their toes. Nowhere can you find stores superior to those to be found in Camrose. The stores themselves are in keeping with the modern methods of commercial displays to be found in the larger cities... in departmental drygoods, in ladies' wear, in men's wear, in boots and shoes, the exceptional development in grocery and food markets, in meat markets and locker storage, in furniture, in the new broader developments in hardware, in jewellery, in elec-

trical appliances, in lumber and building materials, in drug stores and their sundries, in novelty stores, in stationery . . . in fact in practically every line a buying community of some fifty thousand people could ask for. All the leading automobile manufacturers are well represented, as are all the foremost manufacturers of farm machinery. Plumbers, tinsmiths, electricians, and general contractors are well established. There are cleaning establishments for clothing, laundry services, and every need can be readily met.

THE NEW SMITH CLINIC

The Smith Clinic, with eight Doctors, headed by the two sons of the late Dr. P. F. Smith, Dr. "Mac" and Dr. "Hamp.", is the most modern institution of its kind to be found in Western Canada outside the largest cities. There are Dentists, Chiropractors, Lawyers and Accountants to round out the professional services.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL A MOST MODERN INSTITUTION

St. Mary's Hospital, with a capacity for 100 patients, operated by the Sisters of Providence, is a fine modern, fire-proof establishment, equipped in comparison with the largest city institutions.

ROSEHAVEN, A MODERN EXPERIMENT IN THE HUMANITIES

The former Normal School, now translated into a home for the incapable aged, is the City's biggest payroll institution. This modern experiment in social services is being watched by all Canada, and internationally as well. It cares for more than 400 patients and is now in the process of expansion.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church maintains its own home for the aged, with a capacity of 85, and this new institution is planning for expansion.

Alert real estate agents, insurance brokers and travel agents keep Camrose ever in the public eye; while a coterie of life insurance underwriters make Camrose their business headquarters.

Camrose and district is served by branches of three of the largest chartered banks in Canada, all with fine offices; and the Provincial Government operates a Treasury Branch office here.

CAMROSE HAS FINE SCHOOLS

The Camrose Schools are the finest in the entire province. With the exception of a part of the High School, the buildings are all practically new. The High School and Junior High has 22 rooms and auditorium. The new John Russell School has 8 rooms, the New Sparling School has 6 rooms. The new Sifton School, for the rural Division, has 10 rooms, while the two auxiliary schools have 6 rooms. All are excellently equipped and staffed by well qualified and experienced teachers.

WELL ORGANIZED CHURCHES

The spiritual needs of the community within the City of Camrose and its surrounding

areas are taken care of by a number of well organized churches. With a predominant Scandinavian background, it is not unusual that the Lutheran Churches, through its various Synods, should be predominant. The Norwegian Evangelical Lutherans are building a fine new church in Camrose this summer to accommodate their expanding congregations. The Grace Lutheran Church is just completing the erection of a fine new edifice. The Roman Catholic Church has long been well organized in Camrose. Dean P. F. Harrington has been at the head of the Camrose Catholic Church since 1923, or a period of 32 years. The United Church has an overflowing congregation for its quaint Old World architecture building. This building, with its beautiful stained glass windows, is quite a tourist attraction. There are other branches of the Lutheran Church, the Baptists, the Salvation Army, the Penecostal Assembly, the Church of God, and so on.

Camrose is also a centre of religious education. The Evangelical Lutheran Church has maintained the Camrose Lutheran College here for forty-three years. It enrolls High School and Commercial pupils and its enrollment is now averaging about 150. Plans are being laid to develop this College into a Junior College in affiliation with the University of Alberta. These plans necessitate an extensive and progressive building program.

The Canadian Lutheran Bible Institute, starting from a small beginning, is now developing into an outstanding Bible School for the training of Church leaders. Its new buildings bespeak its progress.

The Alberta Bible Institute, an institution sponsored by the Church of God, an international organization, also conducts a very successful Bible School in Camrose. Its affiliated Tabernacle draws large summer religious gatherings to Camrose.

We probably have missed some very important services, for there are the barbers, the beauty parlors, the shoe repair men, the blacksmiths, the service station men, and a host of others.

There are those who provide the hotel services and the motels and cabins. There are the two Theatres that bring modern entertainment, plus the Drive-Ins which operate throughout the warm summer weather.

There are greenhouses and flower shops.

The City Post Office, the Municipal District centre, the East Central Alberta Health Unit, the Petroleum Conservation offices, are also among the services that should be recorded.

The Camrose Agricultural Society has developed one of the most modern exhibition plants in all Alberta, with its Livestock Sales Pavilion, Drill Hall for exhibit privileges, Grandstand, Race Track and numerous other facilities. This will probably be utilized in the Civil Defence project as a Rescue Centre should Edmonton ever require the seri-

ous evacuation of war attacks.

The Alberta Government Telephones has established a dial phone centre in Camrose, one of the largest in the province. Camrose long distance tolls rank fifth within the province.

AN AGGRESSIVE NEWSPAPER

An institution that has contributed to the development of the Camrose community is The Camrose Canadian, a progressive and aggressive publication established by Hon. George P. Smith, later going into the hands of Fred Slight, and after his early death was successfully published by his widow, Mrs. Ila Slight. In 1947 the present publishers purchased the business and it has more than kept pace with the growth of the City. The publishers are R. L. King, Ken Patrige and Chas. W. A. MacLean. The paper has in recent years brought several awards to Camrose, including the Best All Round Paper in Alberta for one year and the Best Editorial Page in the Canada-wide competition in 1953, for papers with circulation exceeding 3,000.

POLITICS AND POLITICIANS

Politics have always been a vital factor of interest in the lives of Camrose citizens. First, there was indomitable George P. Smith, the first member of the Provincial Legislature, and rightly named one of the City's founders. He used his influence as a cabinet minister to get the Normal School established here. George P. went down with the Liberal Government in 1921, with Hon. Vernon Smith winning in the U.F.A. ticket and being given a cabinet position as Minister of Railways and Telephones. Chester Ronning entered the political picture here in a prominent manner under the C.C.F. banner. He was the popular Principal of the Camrose Lutheran College. It is a singular note of pride on the part of the Camrose people that he is now Canada's Ambassador to Norway. He was born in China and speaks that language freely, and was brought into the Department of External Affairs by the Liberal Government at Ottawa to serve as Secretary to the Ambassador to China, a post he held till after the Communists took over. When the Social Credit party was swept into office in 1935 Camrose was represented by W. N. Chant, who was immediately given the post of Minister of Agriculture. Chant differed with Premier Aberhart and was given the gate. He was followed in office by Chester I. Sayers of Meeting Creek, who has held office since that time, being re-elected at the recent provincial elections.

In federal politics, Camrose was not so fortunate. The City enjoyed direct representation during the term in which Dr. H. H. W. Beyerstein was in office. The constituency boundaries were chopped up before the last general federal election, with Camrose left out on the edge of a larger area dominated by old Battle River constituency, with Vermilion at its centre.

PART TWO -- The First Twenty-Five Years

Hamlet of Stoney Creek

1904

MAY.—Duncan Sampson drives into townsite on a load of lumber with Ole Bakken, spending the first night with John Spokkeli south of town. The next morning early he erects his small store with an upstairs dwelling on the road allowance on the west side of the townsite.

K. O. Eggen opens a harness shop; Adam's Stoney Creek Lumber Company and the real estate office of John Paulson opens near Sampson's store.

Early Summer

Phalen & Shirley, contractors, start out from Wetaskiwin to grade the first 25 miles of C.P.R. line east to Winnipeg.

John Gallagher, foreman, locates office near Sampson's store.

OCT.—Eight blocks of townsite surveyed in spring, thrown open for sale.

Duncan Sampson buys lot 4, block 2, for \$200.00 — first lot sold. Moves his store to main street, followed by other businesses.

OCT. 30.—First church service held by Rev. Thomas Phillips, Methodist minister at Stoney Creek, in the carpenter's shack of Charles Asp. Crowded to door with men—one lone woman, Mrs. Foucar.

Fall and Winter

Building off to brisk start in Sparling. Two hotels commence building — Windsor, owned by Camille and P. A. Miquelon, and the Arlington, owned by Ole Bakken.

A. Tretvold builds "Stopping House".

First store building erected on the east side of the first block of Main Street by Andrew Carruthers, who had operated a

stopping and a store a mile north of the townsite. Carruthers later sold to G. W. Wells.

Second structure was erected by Hiram Burgar and Geo. Wallace as a hardware.

General Store of R. Bud Price goes up.

Hardware and Tinsmith Shop of Harry Foucar.

Farm Implement Business of W. G. (Billy) Duggan.

Rushton Lumber, Grain and Implement Company.

Dr. G. G. Stewart comes to town from Bittern Lake.

Arrangements made with Joe Cowan, who drove a mail coach from Wetaskiwin to Heather Brae, to leave the mail for Stoney Creek settlers in a soap box in Sampson's store. In a few months time a regular post office was opened, with Harry Foucar in charge.

Village of Sparling

1905

Reverend Phillips, Methodist Minister, moves to town.

Dr. W. V. Lamb moves his medical practice from Duhamel.

V. Matejka's purchase Arlington Hotel.

R. B. Price joined in business by George and Norman Smith—business changed to Smith Bros. & Price.

W. G. Duggan and Dennis Twomey buy Harry Foucar's hardware.

George Keeble and David Dufferin McLaren build a fancy goods and jewellers store.

Humphrey Higgs builds a drug store; Francois Adam builds an insurance office.

Joe Cowan builds a livery barn. Charlie Peterson builds one . . . and dances to the fiddling of Bill McWhirter, highlight the winter.

Summer, the steel is completed to Sparling, and a train service inaugurated, which ran from Camrose to Wetaskiwin, Lacombe, Stettler and back.

MAY.—Municipal organization begins—citizens of Sparling hamlet make application to government of Northwest Territories at Regina for incorporation as a village. Application granted, and F. P. Layton, R.O., forced to declare himself elected as Overseer for want of nominations.

Overseer borrows \$100 under provisions of Village Act the next morning to begin public works. Deep furrows are plowed on each side of main street to carry off the slough water from the townsite into Stoney Creek.

Francois Adam appointed Justice of the Peace.

JUNE.—Election of the first board of trustees of School District No. 1315, held in Presbyterian Church building. Dr. G. G. Stewart, Duncan Sampson and John Kubberness elected to board of trustees.

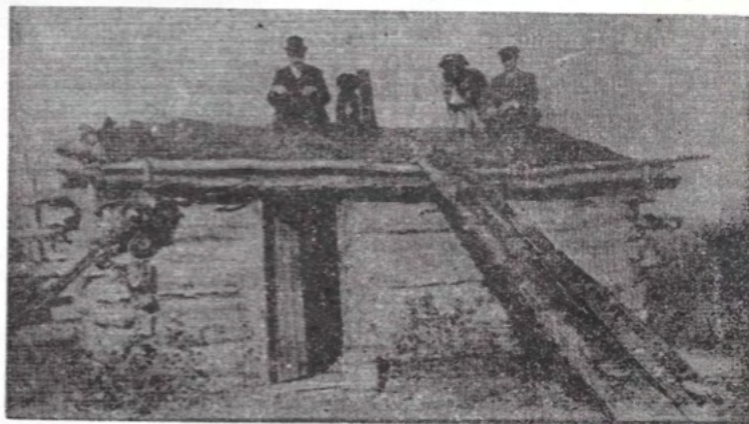
JULY.—July 31st the first school is opened in the Presbyterian Church building, with Miss Signe E. Spokkeli in charge of twenty pupils. Miss Spokkeli re-

signs in December, and is succeeded by R. D. Fleming.

Methodist Church is dedicated. James Kennedy Burgess opens law practice.

Jacob Elness delivers water from his farm south of town to settlers.

Homesteaders adjoining townsite are Jacob Elness, Ole Spiedahl, Chas. G. Erickson, John Kubberness, Lars Larson, John E. Spokkeli, Trone Myers, John B Larson, William and Al. Knox.



This is the Lars Larson homestead shack north-east of the present CPR station. Taken in 1907 within the townsite of Camrose, the shack was surrounded with wheat stubble. Larson (left) at that time was in the harness business and later on sold his interests and started a tire vulcanizing concern with the advent of the automobile. Man on the right is W. L. Landkamer, now of Edmonton.

Town of Camrose 1906

MAY. — Smith Brothers build store on lots 11 and 12 in block 2.

School outgrows church building. Second teacher is engaged, and school is moved to Lutheran Church building.

JUNE.—Contract for four-room brick school let to W. E. Allen.

JULY. — Camrose Mail begins publication on July 27th by Captain T. Berville Thomas.

Fall

Application is made to the Provincial Government for incorporation as a town on the recommendation of Overseer Thomas

Dahl; the proclamation appointed R. D. Fleming as Returning Officer for the first municipal election.

Track has been laid to Daysland, and a daily passenger service on the local train, "Blue Flea Special", is inaugurated between Wetaskiwin and Daysland.

Burgar and Wallace treble their store accommodation with two new stores on the east side of Main Street.

Presbyterian Church commences erection of building.

Frank Pike rides over from Wetaskiwin to establish Merchants' Bank.

New Businesses include: Scandinavian General Store, by Chas.

Peterson; Camrose Photograph Gallery, by C. L. Langbell; The Otteson Company, C.O.D. Store; Eugene Hyman takes over Red Cross Drug Store; Camrose Millinery, by M. Hoyme; Golden Rose Creamery, with Inglis Bros., also handles Massey Harris Machinery; Blacksmith Shop of Haugen & Asp; J. S. Wright, livery and feed stable; B. L. Dyer, tonsorial parlor; Thompson & Dahl, wholesale liquor store; H. C. Vickery, merchant tailor; Dr. W. A. Shea, dentist; J. F. Cannif, real estate; H. E. Teeple, auctioneer—(as advertised in the first issue of The Camrose Mail).

Jacob Langbell builds Langbell Hotel (Heatherbrae).

1907

JAN.—January 16th, first municipal election held; Thomas Dahl elected mayor; councillors Abraham Code, Geo. Smith, R. B. Price, Edward Hjelm.

First council meeting held in hall over Smith Bros. store immediately after election. R. D. Fleming appointed first secretary treasurer; Dr. Lamb as medical officer. Liquor licenses set.

MARCH.—Lots purchased and contract let for building of town and fire hall. Fire engine purchased from Waterous for \$3,820.

MAY.—Coupon No. 1, debenture 1 of the Village of Camrose paid for \$160.

Cemetery north of town purchased for \$70. T. C. Battram appointed engineer. Lauritz Larson appointed pound keeper.

MAY 24th—New School officially opened.

JUNE.—Fair Grounds property purchased from W. J. McNamara for \$4,000. Business men sign bank note for price.

Smith Brothers sell to J. Watson and J. Adair Younge.

Fire Brigade formed, with F. P. Layton chief.

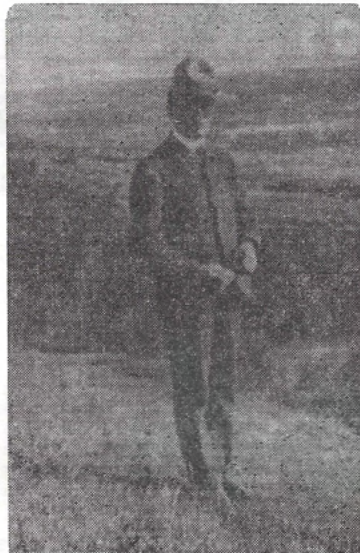
JULY.—"Blue" Smith appointed town constable.

AUG. — Engine room addition built on Fire Hall. Town Bell erected, Sidney Lambert appointed bell-ringer; Geo. Keeble appointed assessor.

SEPT. — John W. Russell, of Olds, becomes principal of Camrose School, and high school classes are begun.

DEC.—Geo. Hallett appointed first nightwatchman.

FIRST BANKER



Frank Pike came from Wetaskiwin about 1906, riding horseback with money in the saddlebags, to start the first bank — Merchants. The bank building was not finished until May, 1907, so Mr. and Mrs. Pike boarded across the street and obtained their meals at Frank Hamilton's. In 1906, Mr. Pike visited Mrs. Rushton and he often recalled that it was so extremely cold then that he could not get out for about a week, and even the train was frozen.

Frank Farley had often told the story about driving into town on a democrat, looking for a place to settle. Frank Pike was sitting watching them put the railroad across the creek and told him that this was going to be the finest place in Alberta . . . so he decided to stay.

1908

JAN. 3rd — First monies paid over to School Board of taxes collected from school district by town.

FEB.—F. P. Layton appointed auditor of town accounts. Band stand erected.

MAY.—Town grader purchased and grading begun on streets. G. W. Wells appointed assessor.

JUNE 13th. — Grant made to Fire Brigade Band, \$100.

JULY. — Three lots purchased from Ed. Thompson for the market square.

AUG. 1st—Grant made to Board of Trade, \$250.

SEPT 4th.—Murdock McKenzie appointed general utilities man to succeed Lauritz Larson. Fence and Sheds built on market square.

NOV. 18th.—A. N. Loggin appointed Night Watchman. R. D. Fleming as R.O.

DEC. 3rd.—The Camrose Canadian begins publishing under Geo. Peter Smith.

The Camrose Canadian is being published in Edmonton and mailed in Camrose. In the meantime, offices have been set up in the office building of F. L. Farley, near the Post Office.

The Canadian Club has just been completed.

Four townsmen, G. W. Wells, F. P. Layton, Captain Thomas and E. Hjelm, will move into their new residences within two weeks.

1908

Francois Adam has built a large addition to his home, with a fine billiard room; Dennis Twomey has made a start on his new house, and Langbell brothers are rushing work on a two-storey building on Main Street to be used as a photograph gallery.

The Camrose Lumber Company is commencing the construction of the Camrose Opera House.

Volume One, Number One of The Camrose Canadian, under the direction of George Peter Smith was published on Thursday, Dec. 3, 1908. Local businessmen stage mock parliament. Premier Corneille was president and Premier of the Council, with Frank Pike leading the government opposition.

Twenty-seven old-timers, with more than twelve years' residence in Camrose and district, got together for a picture. Featured were T. True, E. Thompson, L. O. Bjaaland, O. Movold, M. Stein, T. Roholdt, C. O. Quist, J. Elnes, M. M. McKenzie, J. Hough, J. Moe, H. S. Nomeland, Z. H. Hills, Francois Adam, G. H. Keeble, A. Carruthers, L. L. Hartman, A. McWhirter, Mrs. J. Moe, Mrs. E. Thompson, Mrs. J. Spokeli, Mrs. L. O. Bjaaland, Mrs. J. Hough, Mrs. T. Grue, Mrs. O. Movold, John Spokeli and Ovel Ovelsen.

Camrose Canadian purchases plant of the Camrose Mail and will begin publishing in Camrose. Date of change-over, Feb.

Tannery company plans extension, doubling capacity of plant. Molson's and Trader's Bank open branches in Camrose.

Public meeting appoint board to plan hospital.

C.N.R. and G.T.P. railway companies select station sites—G.T.P. will locate west of Catholic Church on property of F. Adam.

Rooms above E. Thompson & Company chosen as temporary hospital quarters—ten rooms in building to put to use. Captain Thomas offers his house for \$30 a month and site is changed.

Camrose Agricultural Society stages first annual fair, and reports a huge success.

Board of Trade advertises for up-to-date publicity man, offering \$1,000.00 a year salary . . . town vetos, but allows the group \$500.00 for expenses.

First train over the C.P.R. from Saskatoon passes through Camrose on October 28th.

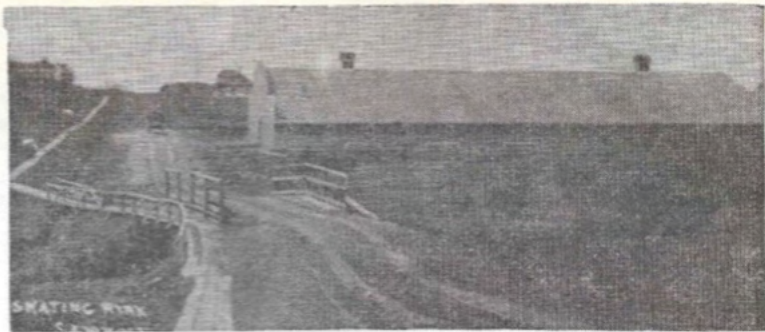
Grand Trunk Pacific start laying rail (November).

Georgeson Company establish Camrose Branch for wholesale groceries.

F. & J. Galts open warehouse in Camrose.

Grand Trunk Pacific steel reaches Camrose on Nov. 30th.

C.P.R. build spur to wholesale house.



The skating rink that was built and operated by Peter Scramstad down by the old bridge.

1909

ANOTHER CAMROSE RAILROAD LINE TO BE BUILT

Canadian Club purchases second Billiard Table . . . financial report shows that the building is all paid for.

The Camrose Mail ceases publication.

Board of Trade appoints publicity committee to draw up publicity material for Camrose.

The government travelling stock show opens up in Camrose.

Fire Brigade holds annual meeting, electing the following officers: Chief, Chas. Cameron; Ass't Chief, J. S. Wright; Captain, Harry Foucar; Cart 1, hose reel, G. W. Wells; No. 2 hose reel, J. A. Younge; Capt. hook and ladder, W. G. Duggan; Capt. chemical, Adolph Aleckson; Secretary-Treasurer, E. L. Thomas.

Messrs. Larson & Code open another store, carrying a complete line of staple and fancy groceries.

Rutherford government announces that the Strathcona, Camrose and Calgary railway lines will be built this year.

George Peter Smith chosen as Liberal candidate for the Camrose constituency.

Mayor Dennis Twomey goes to Toronto, called by the illness of his wife.

Baseball enthusiasts meet and form club, electing Francois Adam as honorary president, Frank Pike as honorary vice-president, George P. Smith as president, J. W. Younge as vice-president, Dr. W. V. Lamb as secretary-treasurer, and Ed. Dahl as manager.

Camrose ladies meet to form Hospital Aid; Mrs. Francois Adam was elected honorary president and Mrs. J. K. Burgess as president.

Mayor Twomey resigns, and A. Code is elected to fill the position.

United Lutheran Church of America accepts proposition of town to build Scandinavian college.

Grand Trunk Pacific railroad coming into Camrose . . . lots in town change hands at a rapid pace.

Citizens discuss electric lights.

1910

ALBERTA PREMIER RIDES FIRST G.T.P. TO CAMROSE

First G.T.P. train arrives on Saturday, Feb. 5th, a special train made up of engine No. 75, the sleeper "Ireland", a coach, caboose and water car. Premier Rutherford, Att'y-General C. W. Cross, Duncan Marshall, Minister of Agriculture, ride train, which was the first one to run on the first track built under the provincial government guarantee. It was the premier's first visit to Camrose.

Camrose Brick Company was organized, with C. G. Corneille as president.

Canadian Northern track reaches Camrose on April 23rd, and continues on to Calgary.

Camrose syndicate commences operations at Round Hill Mines.

Contract let for public hospital.

Foundations laid for new power house for town.

Town erects industrial hall and stock sheds at fair grounds.

A. G. Barnes circus comes to town, complete with three rings.

G.T.P. lays steel across Duhamel bridge.

Camrose Fire Brigade band reorganized under Bandmaster A. Quello and R. Newton. Bandsmen include T. Spencer, Johnson, Scotvold, Maland, Newton, Wisser, Park, Tronnes, Englebretson, Schulstad, Carrol, Scheie, Scramstead, Boyd, and F. and P. Stowe. Chas. Cameron was manager.

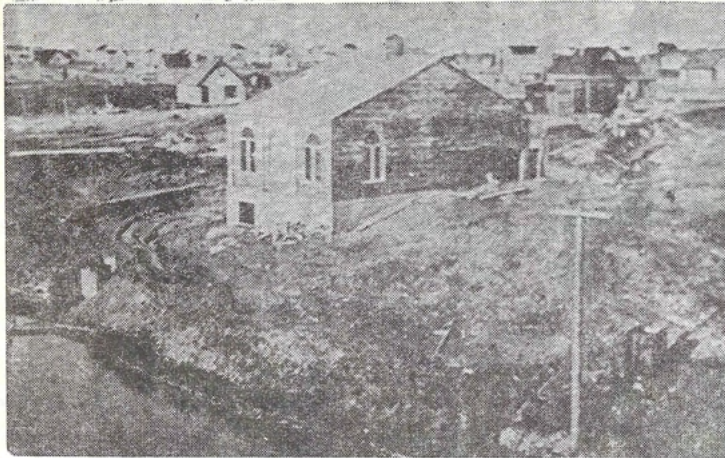
Francois Adam sells lumber yard to Globe Lumber Company of Revelstoke.

Camrose Harness and Saddlery opens for business under P. McCabe and T. Manning.

Twenty-one new businesses built, and seventy-nine residences in year.

Beaver Lumber builds retail yards.

Town Council fixes first water-rates for the citizens at 18 cents per k.w.h.



The newly erected power house as seen at its completion in 1911, after construction had begun in 1910. Steam was generated with coal from the Stony Creek Collieries. Equipped with a piercing whistle it announced the start and ending of the day's work in the town, as well as sounding the alarm whenever a fire threatened the centre.

1911

POWER PLANT SET INTO OPERATION

Power plant set into operation on January 6th, for a cost just under \$25,000.00.

Frank Dunham appointed as Publicity Commissioner and secretary of Board of Trade. M. A. Maxwell appointed by council as waterworks engineer.

Hiram Burgar buys out the hardware firm of Burgar, Davison & Co.

Grand Trunk Pacific passenger line commences on June 12th.

Camrose concrete company opens up cement block plant

Telephones move to sew office.

Camrose Tannery expands to add shoe factory equipment.

Scandinavian Lutheran College opens October 2nd under Professor John P. Tandberg, and three other teachers.

All night electrical service established.

Three thousand dollar curling and skating rink is built.

Frank P. Layton begins second term as mayor.

Tri-weekly service started on the C.N.R.

Mail service on through trains between Winnipeg Camrose and Edmonton inaugurated.

Dominion government buys lots on Main Street for post office

Construction of C.N.R. cut-off to Strathcona commenced.

Hoyme & Company start manufacture of their "Trep" paint.

1912

CAMROSE CAR TRAIN HEADS FOR ONTARIO

Public reception marks opening of new school addition.

Board of Trade plans to send Camrose railroad car on Ontario

Fram Ski Club, organized in 1911, build ski slide on the farm of Ed. Thompson, south of Cam-

rose, with a 50-foot scaffold.

Galt Brothers wholesale sold out to Nash Brothers of Grand Forks, North Dakota.

Fram Ski Club holds first Ski tournament. National Ski Association of Western Canada had headquarters at Camrose, with Torliet Iverson and Lars Maland of Camrose as president and secretary.

Steam Laundry opened under C. Van Trakranen.

First trainload of settlers arrive by special cars from the east on the G.T.P. line.

Camrose Tannery burns to the ground, not covered by insurance, with a loss of over \$30,000.

Camrose Brick Factory goes into operation.

June 6th marked the celebration of the first Norwegian Independence Day in Camrose, with Torliet Iversen as chairman.

R. and F. Francoeur start up machinery business.

Announce \$100,000.00 normal school to be built in Camrose.

Rene Lemarchand announces plans to build a three-storey hotel.

Dr. Jas. C. Miller appointed principal of Normal School, with Miss Dickie as assistant.

F. H. Johnson and J. M. Coughlin join in sanitary heating and plumbing business.

New College building opens on October 21st.

Normal School opens August 20.

Harris Dairy Products opens warehouse in Edmonton, after five successful Camrose business years.

Rev. Dr. McQueen, of Edmonton, presides over the formal opening of the Camrose Presbyterian Church.

1913

TWO-STOREY TELEPHONE BUILDING GOES UP

Thirty students are now in attendance at the Normal School, with two instructors in manual training, art, and a librarian add-

ed to the staff.

Important feature of council program for the year includes the hiring of a building inspector.

F. P. Layton remodels offices for new council chambers.

Annual Camrose Seed Fair enjoys good attendance.

Ski scaffold blows down two weeks prior to tournament, but is repaired in time for the event.

Financial difficulties of hospital compel authorities to request payment in advance. Among the rules and regulations laid down are: No friends of the patients are allowed in the operating room during operations; use of tobacco strictly prohibited, as is spitting on the floors and walls.

Camrose gets \$100,000 for new normal school building, enough to assure the letting of the building contract.

Government commence building on new two-storey brick building to house the local telephone system.

Landscape artist and gardener arrives to beautify C.P.R. grounds.

Officials find that Municipal Hospital is failing to cope with present requirements, arrangements made to float building debentures.

Messrs. Peacock and Wade open fox farm for breeding purposes.

Rev. J. R. Lavik replaces Rev. Tandberg as College president.

New Camrose Lutheran College building dedicated on June 26th.

Rev. A. D. Richard leaves pastorate of Methodist Church.

Vernon Fruit Company builds warehouse on spur line.

Fourteen graduates receive diplomas from first graduation class at Camrose Lutheran College.

Sixteen teachers to staff second term at the Normal School.

Spicer Coal Mine opens in Dinant, producing a lignite coal from a forty-foot shaft.

New business and commercial buildings this year include L. E. Martin, second-hand store; C.N.R. freight sheds; Chas. Eltrick, public garage; Robt. Drysdale, store; Jno. Adkins, livery; Lars Larson, steam laundry; J. B. Larson, feed mill; Vernon Fruit Company, wholesale fruit; Cottage School; J. F. Fowler, blacksmith shop.

Work started on Normal building and telephone building.

Stover Bros. establish Dairy, business being conducted by Mr. McClary.

Camrose Natural Gas Company formed, and makes arrangements to drill well. Site for gas well chosen near civic power plant.

Camrose loses services of John W. Russell, who becomes school inspector.

"Home to Norway" association for Western Canada formed in Camrose. A reduced rate for a trip to the homeland is planned on the occasion of the centennial of Norway's freedom.

Town Council considers securing of paid fire-fighters, and advertises for a chief, assistant, and six reel men.

Natural gas burns in Camrose for first time—580-foot well gives big flow of 50 feet per day.

..... 1914

FIRST POULTRY SHOW HELD BY ASSOCIATION

First Camrose Poultry show draws large number of entries; president Fred Pratt of the Camrose District Poultry and Pet Stock Association welcomed out-of-town breeders.

Windsor Hotel transformed by \$4,000 renovation.

First large fire in Camrose takes toll of \$20,000 worth of property, main damage being to the stores of George Wells and A. Carruthers.

Camrose rink collapses due to heavy snow on roof—\$5,000 loss. Alexander Grocery Company takes over business of Georgeson & Company.

Camrose wins championship of the Alberta High School Debating League, defeating Lethbridge at the finals held in Edmonton.

Camrose assessment reaches quarter million dollar mark.

Council lets the contract for water and sewer extensions, and passes approval for the renovation of the fire hall.

Fifty Norwegians from Camrose and district leave on "Home To Norway" expedition . . . Board of Trade holds farewell reception.

Harry Foucar relieved of duties as postmaster, after nine years' service, and replaced by R. L. Rushton.

Imperial Oil build large warehouse north of C.P.R.

Sports Day pony race down Main Street ends in fatality—young Duhamel lad killed. Also end of pony races.

Sixty Scandinavian editors touring the country visit Camrose.

Camrose Turf Club puts on excellent exhibition at Fair.

D. Sutherland elected mayor; C. J. Bailey, D. Sampson and H. Pulleyblank elected to serve on the hospital board.

W. T. Shipley of Neepawa, Manitoba, appointed to the position of principal of the Camrose High School, rendered vacant by the retirement of Mr. Ferguson.

..... 1915

TWO LOCAL CHURCHES DISCUSS AMALGAMATION

Canadian subscription contest offers two pianos and a Ford car as prizes.

Twelve local boys enlist in Edmonton regiment—town sponsors hearty send-off.

Auditors' report shows town's finances in excellent shape—water and electricity rate cut again.

Local Methodist and Presbyterian churches take first steps towards amalgamation.

A. Maland of Camrose comes second in provincial ski meet; A. Haugen of Edmonton took first. Other winners were O. Eivenson and A. J. Ofrim of Camrose.

Town fire department installs gong to be operated from the telephone central as a fire alarm.

F. P. Layton appointed as District Commissioner for the Boy Scouts for the Camrose district, introducing a new movement into this section of Alberta. A meeting is held to organize the local association.

Harris Dairy Products sells out to Prairie Farmers Dairy Company.

Camrose Canadian installs typesetting machine called Linotype, to replace hand setting. First linotype-set paper published on March 25th.

Camrose farmers petition for two rural mail routes . . . government representative meets with farmers . . . routes to run north and north-east, with a service every other day.

Town undertakes to inaugurate a Market Day along with a town beautification scheme.

The Conservative nominating convention at Viking put Frank P. Layton up as candidate.

Eighty-six children absent from school in measles epidemic—Dr. Lamb closes public schools for the duration of the sickness.

Tax rate for the year 1915 set at 32 mills to the dollar.

Agricultural Society to sponsor Standing Grain Field competi-

tion, to stimulate interest in the growing of first class seed grain.

Sheriff closes the Windsor Hotel—action was taken by owners of property for back rent. Proprietor leaves town.

C.N.R. tri-weekly passenger service from Edmonton to Camrose is inaugurated.

Calgary Brewing Company purchase the Windsor Hotel at Bailiff's sale—S. T. Severson will manage the hotel for the purchasers.

Four new appointments made to the Normal Practice School.

E. V. Kerr and Chas. McDonald buy out the R. B. Price store. Owens and Johnson open their fourth business in Camrose.

Dr. Lamb leaves with the Royal Canadian Medical Corps for England.

New Normal School building is opened by Hon. J. R. Boyle, Minister of Education.

P. Pallesen and associate locate creamery in town—building to be located on Bakken Street. The business will manufacture butter and cheese.

..... 1916

C.N.R. LINE BUILDS SOUTH-EAST OF CAMROSE

One hundred boys in uniform—33 men in Camrose 151st platoon. Camrose Central Creamery officially opens, P. Pallesen, prop.

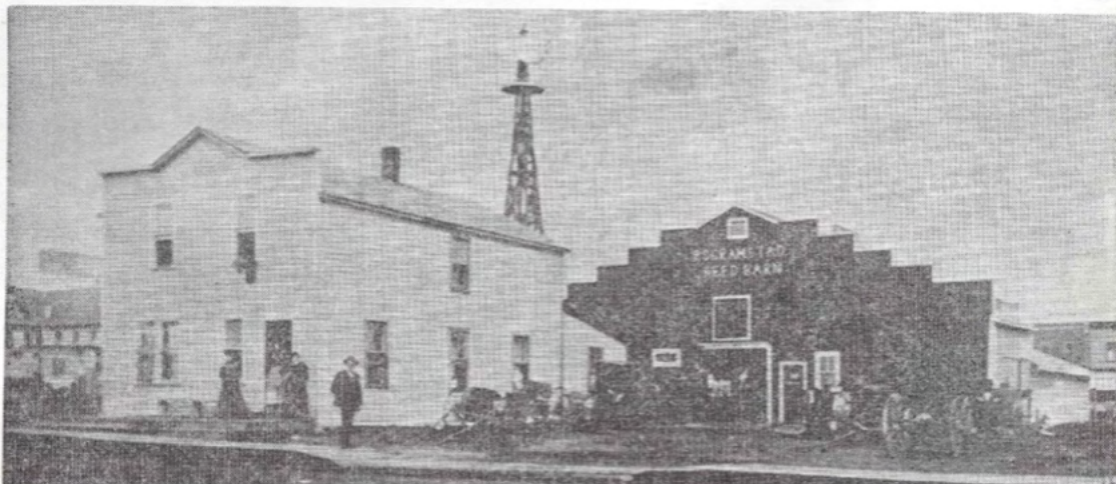
Telephone exchange completed—present 500 lines, ultimate capacity 1000 lines.

New Norway fire—Alberta Farmers' co-operative elevator, 20,000 bushels of wheat burned.

Death of J. L. Becker, Dray and Livery business, also delivered mail from stations.

Ranch deal closed—Bowes Bros., Merton and Harold, purchase 1200 acre ranch owned by Thos. Evans 6 miles south of Camrose, also rent 300 acres, came from Ingersoll, Ontario.

Death of Richard Pallister, a member of town council, sponsored road and street improvement program.



Built in 1907 by Peter Scramstad, these buildings were situated north of the Langbell Hotel (Heatherbrae). Peter also built a skating rink near the old bridge across Stony Creek. He served for 22 years as caretaker of the Camrose Normal School.

First Norman School Athletic Field Day.

New Norway fire, Pioneer elevator and 20,000 bushels of grain destroyed.

Sixteen Scandinavians enlist in 223rd Scandinavian battalion, join Battalion in Winnipeg.

Road improvements, boulevarding, trees—town residents assist with expenses.

Automobile Club formed in June. Officers and road captains elected. Aim to secure all farmers as members.

Axel Skovgaard, noted Danish violinist delights audience on initial appearance.

Property changes hands. Lutheran property sold to Roman Catholic parish.

Camille David buys a section ranch, 1-48-20, 6 miles north of Camrose.

Development along C.N.R. line southeast of Camrose. Eight new townsites including Kelsey, Rosalind, Campbellton, Heisler.

Rosalind — S. Pritchard bought purebred Aberdeen Angus cows from Brandon for his Glenrose Stock Farm.

Camrose Constituency Motor Club held first picnic August 11, at August Miller's summer resort.

Prof. M. R. Odegaard, a member of faculty of Camrose Lutheran College since 1911 left in August for a similar position in Spokane, Washington.

Death of W. H. Harper, August 27th. Hap operated a confectionery business for three years on Camrose Main Street.

Rev. Mr. Dredge, newly-inducted minister in Presbyterian Church. He and Mrs. Dredge welcomed at public reception.

A large grain warehouse is being erected near the C.N.R. station by the Columbia Grain Company of Winnipeg.

A meeting was held in the Presbyterian Church to form a Camrose Ministerial Association, including ministers of all Camrose churches.

The first flower show was held in the old Telephone Exchange Building with a splendid showing of flowers.

Camrose bids farewell to the boys in the 151st Battalion and the citizens of the town presented gifts.

City Transfer and Dray Business changed hands, being taken over by Alex Leitch from J. R. Rogers who operated the business for several years.

Francoeur Bros. make record sales of Moody and Desjardine threshing machines.

1917

CAMROSE SEES FIRST CHAUTAUQUA PROGRAM

Death of Rev. John McDougall, D.D. Mrs. Womacks, Camrose West was a niece.

Hardware changes hands. First known as Bugar, Davidson and Company and later as Hiram Bugar, Hardware, was sold to Taylor and Morris of Edmonton.

Three Camrose skiers represent



Showing the Camrose Wine and Spirits Company, and H. W. Storey Hardware. The little building to the left of the Pool Room still stands, occupied by the Camrose Sports Shop and Elna Sewing Center. Note the snappy car models.

the Fram Ski Club at Revelstoke. Adolph Maland, Ole Eivenson and Elmer Ofrim. Eivenson second in seven mile race, third in jump. Maland second in jump, won the longest standing jump.

Farewell smoker for Ex-Mayor Sutherland who was going to Vancouver.

Armena registers the death of K. E. Lyseng, oldest citizen of the district. He was born in 1824 and came to the district in 1901.

Women's Institute formed in the Camrose district, organized by Miss Mary McIsaac, Superintendent of Alberta Institutes.

George Sjolie was first in Class A, Camrose Jr. Ski jump, Irving Larson headed Class B.

Mrs. Axel Nordstrom passed away, had lived in the Camrose district 10 years.

Arlington Hotel opens to public under new management, having been closed for several months—Sabourin and Bouchard of Saskatchewan new managers.

Farmer's co-operative company was organized and plans were made towards a co-operative elevator.

Martin Heisler, father-in-law of Joe Gau, passed away at the age of 70 years.

George P. Smith was nominated as Liberal candidate in 1917 election. Frank Layton was chosen as Conservative candidate.

D. Sampson, first merchant in Camrose, sells business to D. H. M. Little and takes up farming 3 miles west of Camrose.

Rev. and Mrs. Francis come to United Church from Lethbridge.

Co-operative Elevator Co. bought Pioneer elevator.

First Chautauqua program in Camrose was July 6-12 in 1917. Was well attended. Sudden storm wrecked the Chautauqua tent.

Frank L. Smathers won Military Medal.

Robert Drysdale who operated a book store here for many years, returned to Neepawa, Manitoba to reside.

Dennis Twomey was appointed Sheriff of the district. Announcement was made in Alberta Gazette (Judicial District of Camrose).

Laboratory tests prove Camrose water first class.

First teacher's convention was held in the Normal School.

Mrs. G. G. Stewart passed away in Ottawa. She and Mr. Stewart were among the town's first settlers.

Corp. Theo Bailey returns from France, was wounded in wrist and was in an Edmonton Hospital.

A meeting was held in the town hall, attended by farmers from the surrounding districts who formed an association to deal with grain and livestock. Shares were sold in the United Grain Growers Co. Sixty delegates attended the meeting.

1918

600 PEOPLE STRICKEN IN INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC

T. Solfleet wins the Military Medal during the Passchendaele fighting.

C. O. Peterson who came to Camrose in 1909, passed away in 1918.

Camrose Exhibition goes on big "B" Circuit of Western Fair Association, of which there are fifteen members.

The U.G.G. sold 20 carloads of hogs at 18¢.

Three boys were born to Mr. and Mrs. Boudreau and according to Mrs. White Bear, an elderly half-breed woman who is well known in the town, the children were perfectly healthy.

Rev. William Connolly, early Methodist Minister of Camrose church, passes in Edmonton.

Change in V. E. Forster business, Lewis Hartman and A. L. Halstead take over retail end of the business.

Camrose band organized with 12 members. Pete Tronnes in charge of band as leader.

Party of 12 motor from Nebraska to Camrose. L. K. Kvam, shareholder in the Tanner Lumber Co., located in Camrose.

Camrose Motor Club held auto parade on second day of fair.

Z. H. Hills built four new cottages on main street, south of the court house.

City Dray business which had been owned by Alex Leitch passed to the hands of Alex Webb, who will have under his control four drays, three teams and two coal wagons.

The C.P.R. flower garden under the care of Mr. Freemantle is a lovely beauty spot, especially when viewed from the train.

A. E. Torrie, Inspector of Schools at Macleod, to teach Mathematics and Psychology at the Normal School.

Maland and Ofrim start hardware and install gasoline pump.

Camrose organizes to fight influenza epidemic which has caused many deaths in the Camrose North area. A week later 600 cases of the disease were reported in Constituency of Camrose.

Isolation hospital which was in charge of Miss Peterson, closed.

Camrose town was under a ban owing to the 'flu epidemic, but was not quarantined. Mrs. F. L. Willard, wife of manager of the Alberta Lumber Co., dies of 'flu.

1919

SEVENTY-TWO PASSENGER TRAINS THROUGH WEEKLY

T. Martin and son, representing the Barton Cattle Company of Sioux City, Iowa bought 341 cattle and shipped from Camrose yards, at a price of \$40,000.

Shasta Cafe opened in building vacated by Camille David and operated by Edmonton men.

A. Maland, who was a clever ski performer, won two cups and two medals at the Banff Carnival.

Mayor V. E. Forster sold machinery business to Mr. Weirba of Leduc, in order to devote his time to affairs of the town of Camrose.

Members of the United Grain Growers Livestock Company met and formed a shipping association. President, Lew Hutchinson; Vice-President, Dr. Haworth and Secretary, P. Slattery.

Stettler's Citizen Band visited Camrose and furnished a rousing band concert, followed by a dance. A special car was used for the purpose of conveying the musicians.

Pte. Frank Forster returned with the famous 49th Battalion. He was in France and saw heavy fighting in Camrai.

New engine at power plant carried it's first load on Saturday, 180 h.p., increasing considerably power output of the plant.

Athletic Club formed with 30 members. Ed. Matson President and Mr. Hales Grew later into Athletic Association, affiliated with larger towns in Provincial Athletic Association, under the leadership of K. L. Rushton.

Tanner Lumber Co., bought out by Wells Lumber Co., of Sedgewick.

Great War Veterans met in the Arlington Hotel to organize a Great War Veteran's Association. The meeting was arranged by A. H. Coles, business manager of the Western Veteran, Edmonton, and Pte. B. Thleme.

Rifle Club was organized by High School boys. Officers appointed were instructor, Mr. Forde; President, John Badner; Secretary, Emmett Mohler; Treasurer, Oliver Hough.

Charles W. Smith, optometrist, of Elmo, Ont., locates in Camrose.

World War formally ended with signing of Peace Treaty at Versailles.

F. L. Farley and Dick Engbretson took a trip to Fort Mc-

Murray by rail, canoe and trail. Includes an interesting description of northern Alberta in 1919.

Lieut. T. Solfleet returns. Was 1914 war veteran and winner of the Military Medal.

Miss Petra Sater won a silver medal with a perfect paper, 100% in a music examination in Theory. Miss Ada Smart of Camrose was her tutor.

The Imperial Oil tanks and warehouse addition were set up at a cost of \$14,000. The company first started doing business in Camrose in 1909 as a barrel station without any equipment. By 1910 business had increased and a warehouse was built for a 316 barrel capacity.

C. H. Robinson, formerly assistant principal at the Practice School and a returned war veteran, was appointed to the principalship.

Camrose sets record for province in Grade 11 and 12 and Grade 8 examinations.

Infantile paralysis made its appearance in districts surrounding Camrose. There were no cases reported in or near Camrose.

Alex McCrae returned to old job as agent of the G.T.P. Station after returning from overseas.

Mrs. Francois Adam sold the Ford Garage property to Hamel and Curtiss of Bawlf. Mrs. Adam stated that the present staff at that time would be retained by the new owners.

The Town of Camrose was clear of liabilities in 1919 for the first time since 1905.

Brody's new store near the Market Square, to open October 10 with H. S. McIntyre, returned war veteran as manager. He was a member of 196th Battalion.

Mayor V. E. Forster disposed of barley off 40 acres for \$1500.



THE ARLINGTON HOTEL—Built in the winter of 1904-05 by Ole Bakken, it was on Lots 17 and 18, Block 3. He sold the hostelry to V. Matejka and his wife Teresa in 1905. This hotel was conducted by the Matejka's until 1928 when they built the Alice Hotel on the site of the old Windsor, which had been lost by fire.



THE HEATHER BRAE BAND IN 1908—The parade is headed toward the CPR station. The driver of the band wagon is Frank Carter, owner of the second team of horses. The first team of dapple greys belonged to Carl Wabel.

1920

NEW CEMETERY OPENED UP; OLD ONE CROWDED OUT

The growth of Camrose was revealed in the school, Principal Robinson of the Practice School reported to the ratepayers' meeting, there were 36 to 41 pupils in all rooms where 36 was considered a limit.

L. E. Martin completed several business transactions when he disposed of his McLaughlin Automobile Agency to Alf. Christenson, his auction business to A. D. Campbell and his residence to Mr. G. Lowry. Mr. Martin was in business nine years, was a leader in the province as a car salesman and sold 156 cars in the last year he did business here.

Dr. W. H. Craig, Irving Hills and Casey Anderson returned with two moose as their trophies from a two week's hunting trip.

C. L. Langbell installed a new photographic wonder machine to keep his Photograph Studio up-to-date. The Eastman projection machine, the first of its kind shown in Calgary. None of these machines were placed in either Edmonton or Calgary at that time.

Hon. Geo. P. Smith and his brother, N. Smith, were victims of an automobile accident 6 miles west of Camrose resulting in a broken collar bone for N. Smith and Mr. Geo. P. Smith had a badly fractured shoulder and nose and bruises.

The new cemetery was reported in use and eight graves were moved from the old cemetery to the new. Mayor Forster and Councillors Pratt, Russell, Johnstone and Young attended the meeting.

C.N.R. surveyors were working south of town surveying a connecting line between the C.N.R. and the Grand Trunk road 6 miles and by so doing planned to dis-

continue use of the large bridge over the Battle River at Duhamel.

Rev. Archdeacon Howcroft, M.A., was appointed Anglican Minister.

Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King and party were welcomed by a large crowd of citizens on Friday morning when they arrived in Camrose. The Camrose Citizen's Band struck up some lively airs as the train pulled into the station drawing a private car bearing the Liberal leader and his party on a tour of the West. Sixty persons sat down to the bountiful banquet tendered by the Board of Trade.

John L. Loveseth included the Chevrolet automobile agency with his other car agencies in his show room opposite the post office.

Frank and James Mohler opened a grain office on Main Street just north of Greenwood and Knights butcher shop. At one time they owned three elevators, but at that time only one. It was located in Ohaton.

One hundred and six persons attended Normal.

Silver cups were presented as prizes by the Horticultural Society at the second successful exhibition of the society.

600 people attend the Third Camrose Week in the Lutheran College with three services daily.

The first public rest room was opened in town. The plans were laid by members of the Board of Trade and U.F.A.

Lutheran College held first reunion after nine years of service. P. C. Pederson headed a board elected to arrange for yearly reunions. Ten diplomas were presented, the class averaged 65 students during the year.

School children celebrated Canada's birthday at one of the first celebrations of its kind held in town. Rural children joined in the program.

The Methodist congregation held a banquet and burned the mortgage on their church. Mr. C. G.

Cornelle, B.A., B.D., who preached the dedicatory service fifteen years earlier, occupied the chair for the occasion. The achievement was the work of the L.A. of the church.

The Standard Grocery business changed hands, H. Foucar and H. A. Jensen, both well known in the town, purchased the business from Mr. Asp.

The younger members of the Methodist Church organized the Epworth League with J. B. Francis as president.

John Loveseth purchased the premises on Main Street occupied by the undertaking parlors from E. O. Haukedal. The building became the show room for Dodge motor cars.

Mrs. J. W. Russell passed quietly away. A very large congregation paid their respects at the funeral.

Alberta Library Association was formed with Dr. F. A. Nordbye of the Camrose Library Board as a member of the executive.

Population of Camrose 2188.

Imperial Oil Co. added 2 more steel tanks at their wholesale outlet to take care of increased business.

The Shasta Cafe purchased the building which housed their cafe.

Prospects of Duggan & Gau building.

1921

LOCAL RED CROSS BRANCH ORGANIZED

The Minister of Health, Edmonton, sent a telegram to the local Municipal Council of Lloyd George conveying the news that the Camrose Hospital District had been established. Mr. A. C. McKay had been down organizing the district embracing the area east beyond Bawlf, west midway to Wetaskiwin, north to Kingman and south to Bashaw and Edberg, including some 40 townships.

Camrose High School debating team won the U.F.A. trophy. Le-ander Gau and Grant Stickle were the Camrose debaters.

H. Hedger of the Hedger Studio left to attend the graduate course for photographers at the leading College of Photography in the U.S., having spent three years in business in Camrose.

Grand Trunk Railway Superintendent Brown announced the Duhamel bridge would be torn down and trains would run over C.N. tracks to Battle Siding, using the C.N. station and freight sheds. The Grand Trunk lines ran into town from the north on the diamond north of town, and the Board of Trade seized the opportunity to ask for express delivery in Camrose.

E. B. Spark put the "go" on the early gopher by sponsoring a contest with prizes. 11,402 gophers were disposed of with the Swea School, Miss E. Munson, teacher, winning first prize with 1732 gopher tails turned in.

Death of the Indian Chief, Ermine Skin, at Hobbema, removed from the west one of its historic figures, a native of the west, who lived in the Edmonton district his last 94 years. Tied with the early furtraders, his name was linked with the Riel Rebellion but he eventually became a loyal Canadian citizen.

The local militia started off with a good roll of young men, the first meeting was in charge of Major W. V. Lamb of Camrose and Col. Daly of Sedgewick.

District Organizer, Major Essen, organized a Red Cross branch in Camrose with a large membership.

J. Watson Younge, elected Grand Master of Alberta Masons; musical abilities of Miss Gwen Taylor won honors; Robert Kerr, father of Paddy Kerr, becomes prominent in

Irish politics; Free deliveries of C.N.R. express were announced for July 1.

V. W. Smith, farmer's candidate, won out in the election over George P. Smith.

Years an accountant for Manning Sutherland Lumber Co., and 5 years in the same capacity for the Francoeur Bros., were accorded farewell parties on the eve of their departure for Edmonton.

1922

LOCAL BUTTER-MAKER WINS ELEVEN DOMINION PRIZES

Mixed farming train which toured the province was centre of attraction in town.

Ski tournament drew largest crowd in history of town with an attendance of 1400 people. The Sons of Norway held the centre of the arena in their exhibition of wholesome sport, and George Sjolie, an entrant, standing high on the prize list.

Merchant's Bank sign taken down and replaced by sign of Bank of Montreal. The Merchant's Bank opened in 1905 with Frank Pike manager and Kid MacLean assistant. It was the first bank to serve the town, prior to that time all banking was done in Wetaskiwin.

A great crowd attended the unveiling on main street of the monument, a memorial to the soldiers. The monument was erected by the Harry Connor Chapter of the I.O.-D.E. and Major W. V. Lamb stepped forward to unveil the monument. Mrs. J. B. Scott of the Heather Brae-Albury district paid a lovely tribute to her son, Joe Scott, and other sons, by laying a wreath of white roses.

J. Watson Younge and J. Adair Younge announced dissolution of partnership in their store. They

were pioneer merchants. J. Adair continued in the business here and J. Watson Younge went back to eastern Canada.

Carl Anderson, butter maker in Camrose Creamery, won 11 prizes among 85 entries from all over the Dominion with Alberta entries predominating at Calgary fair competitions.

E. B. Spark, owner of the local book store and very well known in town, passed away.

The Boy Scouts organized Troop No. 1 with W. E. Doble as Scout Master.

Dr. P. F. Smith and F. P. Layton returned from a trip over the E.D. and D.C. railway that took them as far as Waterways in the company of Hon. V. W. Smith, Minister of Railways and Telephones in the Provincial Govt.

Sixty smartly uniformed Practice School young men paraded at the Normal School before Cadet Captain Roland Fisher for the presentation of the R. B. Bennett Shield which they won last year in competition with 35 cadet companies in various parts of the province.

J. B. Taylor took over the house furnishings business from J. A. Younge & Co., to add to his business of that type and to leave J. A. Younge and Co. free to go into the Ladies' Ready-to-Wear.

Growth in Camrose was revealed through an interesting building expansion including the Canadian Oil Garage; Arlington Hotel alterations and addition of dining room facilities; addition to Lanbell Studio; Christenson Garage; Power House and machinery; expansion at Imperial Oil warehouse.

Mrs. E. Papineau, resident on Railway avenue achieved wonderful success in growing small fruits including raspberries, strawberries, and Rocky Mountain cherries.



Located on the present Bank of Montreal corner. Duncan Sampson's general store was across the street where Ofrim & Maland's store now stands. Francois also had his J.P. and Notary Public offices in this building, and the sign on the fence proclaims Fairbanks scales. This building, originally the Stoney Creek Lumber Company of Adam's had squatted on the road allowance near Sampson's store before the townsite started. After Sampson had purchased the first lot, Adam followed suit and re-located at this spot.

1923

TWO MAJOR FIRES REPRESENT \$62,000.00 LOSS

With the issue November 29, 1923 the Camrose Canadian launched into its 16th year of publication, having been incorporated in 1909. The Camrose Mail having served the community some years previously.

The Rogers Lumber Yards Ltd., purchased the H. J. Wells Lumber Co., with head offices at Camrose and included several lumber yards in surrounding towns.

An intermediate hockey team is formed to take its place along with the senior town team, the high school team and the Normal aggregation. Hon. V. W. Smith is the Honorary President and Irving Hills, President.

Fire broke out in the Shasta Cafe, completely destroying the cafe, the adjoining buildings including the confectionery, Diana Sweets and the Ofrim and Maland Hardware. Loss was estimated at \$40,000.

George Lowry was chosen Mayor for the Town of Camrose for 1923-24 term, having been elected by acclamation.

A. J. Fender who had been in Camrose since 1918 and connected with U.G.G., purchased the retail candy business of Live'y and Adams.

Camrose suffered its second fire loss in a year with the loss of the Windsor barn and the Manning-Sutherland Lumber shed with a total loss of \$22,000.

Hon. Arthur Meighen, leader of the Conservative party in the Canadian parliament and Senator Griesbach visit Camrose.

1924

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL OPENS FOR BUSINESS

Dr. Sperber and Wilhelm Kelger of the German Immigration Association, Hamburg, Germany, visited Camrose with a colonization project in view.

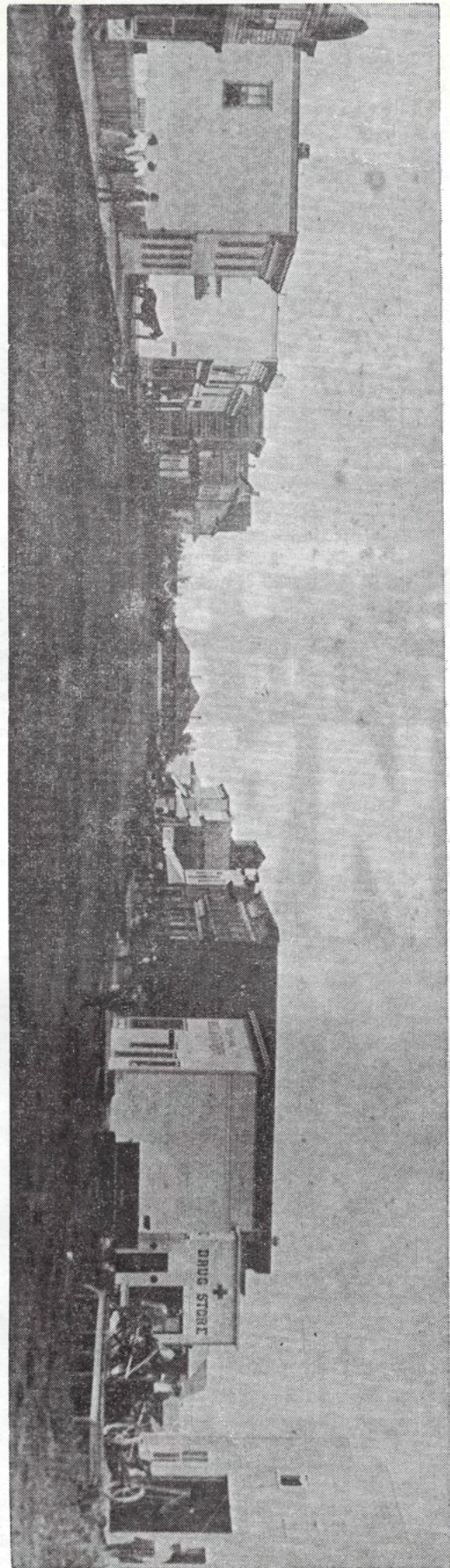
A tobaggan slide for children was prepared just west of Mr. Spokely's house on Government Road corner.

Thousands of mallard ducks were starving in the January weather in the Bashaw district. A telegram was received by F. L. Farley from Ottawa asking him to investigate and report the plight of the birds. Contributions of grain for feed were requested.

The I.O.D.E. social service projects for the year included the beautifying of the memorial plots in the cemetery and at the monument.

Chas. Duggan gave a plot of ground for erection of two houses for Hebridean (Scotch Settlers). The immigrants learned the Canadian method of farming before

One of the earliest pictures available, looking north down Main Street. The portion of the building on the extreme left is the first store of Duncan Sampson, located next to the lumber yard of Francois Adam. Mr. Sampson purchased the first townsite lot, on the corner of First Street and First Avenue and built a new store building in 1906, which is still the present building of Ofrim & Maland Hardware. Further down the street can be seen a real estate office and the Smith Brothers general store. The drug store (now the Camrose Drug) was operated by Eugene M. Hymen. In 1905, Humphrey L. Higgs had erected the drug store, with Hymen buying him out.



moving out on their own farms, and then two more families would take their place in the houses.

U. Hillstrom, Swedish jumper, captured first prize at Camrose Ski Tournament. Twenty-five entrants took part with all classes included.

Evergreen Municipality prepared to wage war on gophers with poison.

Gravel and sand was being hauled for Sisters of Providence Hospital. The contract for the construction was let to Poole Construction Co.

Eighty veterans observed the 7th Vimy Anniversary at a banquet. Forty-five Camrose veterans and 35 visiting veterans attended.

The Camrose Rotary Club held their inauguration meeting in the dining room of the Arlington Hotel. President Jake Saunders presided over a membership of eighteen.

P. Laing resigned his position as agent of the Imperial Oil Co. following a number of years of service. Thomas McWhirter took over the new duties as agent.

20,000 pounds of butter from the P. Burns creameries at Wetaskiwin and Camrose going to Panama Canal to the British Isles. Carl Anderson, who had won a reputation for making butter of a special grade, was in charge of the butter making which drew favorable comment when graded.

Forty-five boys attend the Rotary Camp at Miquelon Lake which was the first effort of the club along the lines of boys' work. Ven. Archdeacon G. Howcroft and Frank Farley were in charge of the camp throughout the four days.

The 16th Fair was a success. There were 64 exhibitors and nearly 1200 entries were prepared for judging.

St. Mary's Hospital was officially opened Sunday, Oct. 19. His Grace Archbishop O'Leary performed the simple but impressive ceremony of laying the corner stone.

1925

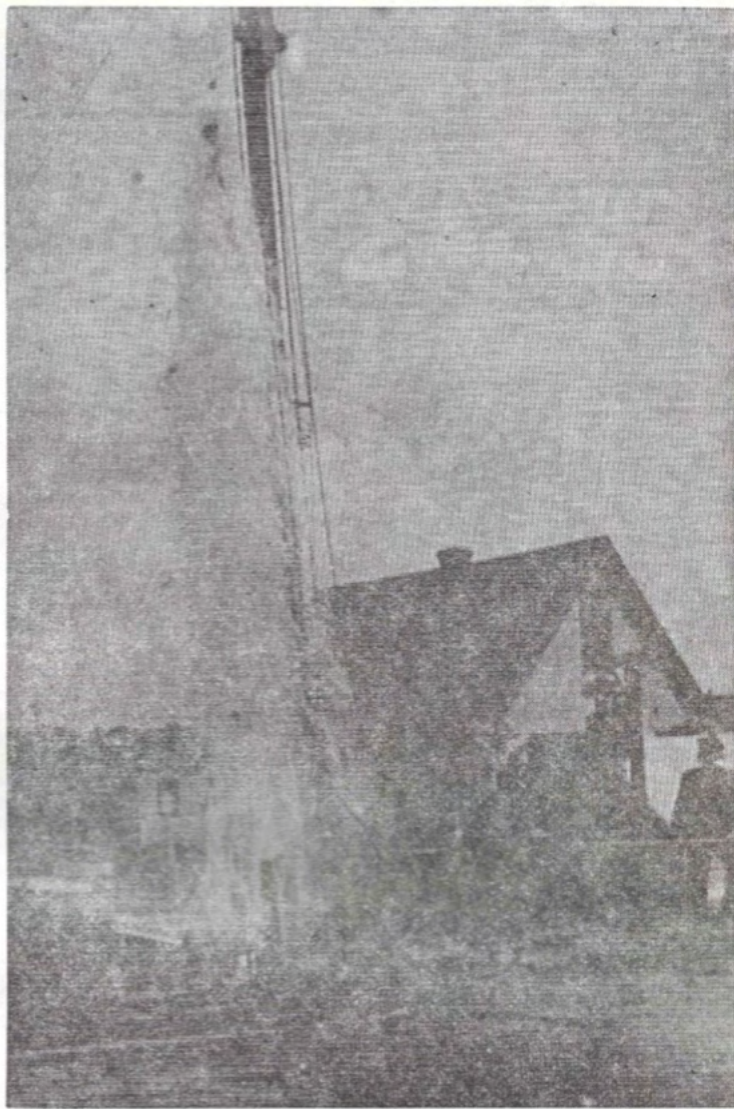
VETS FORM LOCAL BRANCH OF GREAT WAR SERVERS

Miss Donalda Dickie and Miss E. M. Burnett entered the author's field with the printing of school text books. Both ladies were teachers in Camrose.

Jerry Twomey was appointed as District Manager of the Dominion Life Assurance Co., with headquarters in Edmonton.

John Douglas, Mayor, and all members of the town council were re-elected by acclamation, making an election unnecessary.

Mr. Walter Scott, B.A., former head of the Mathematics section of the Camrose Normal School in Camrose for a period of four years,



Haley and Stanley Nelson of the Parkland district, drilled this well in Camrose in 1912 for the water works project. Picture was taken by C. L. Langbell.

passed away.

The market reports quoted No. 1 Northern wheat at \$1.72 per bushel.

A new local lumber yard under the management of President D. Raymond Francoeur, managing director F. Ferland and secretary E. E. Ouellette, has purchased the Camrose Lumber Co., at a price of approximately \$13,000, from Mr. McFee.

Sisters of Providence, St. Mary's Hospital, gave the first donation, \$10.00 to open the fund for the Rotary Club's swimming pool project.

The U.G.G. elevator north of the C.P.R. tracks was completely destroyed by fire March 12. The loss of approximately \$12,000 was covered by insurance.

President F. J. Slight, chaired a meeting of the Camrose War Veteran's association whereby members voted to form the local organization into a branch of the Great War Veteran's Association.

George Tate, Duhamel, purchased

a residence in Camrose from Mrs. Francois Adam.

Sisters of Providence installed the very latest in X-ray machines in St. Mary's Hospital.

J. A. Dobry, Killam, sold his lumber yard at that point to the Beaver Lumber Co., and purchased an interest in the Camrose Lumber Co., Ltd.

P. Borud installs the very latest optical equipment in his optical room.

Mr. Gus Gilbertson purchased the Alberta Lumber Co. property which had been vacant for some time.

Burns Creamery, with C. Anderson the manager, gave the information that eggs were to be shipped from Camrose in carload lots.

Mr. and Mrs. P. A. W. Jackson and 7 children among the first settlers from Birmingham, England, to arrive on the British immigration scheme handled by the Soldiers' Settlement Board in Camrose. They settled in the Dinant district.

Members of the Presbyterian and Methodist churches decided to organize their congregations in Camrose into the Union making possible plans to proceed with the building of a new United Church in Camrose.

Building contracts let by the Municipal Council were over the \$36,000 mark.

Duncan Sampson who was a pioneer merchant in town operating the business known as the Flag Store, opened a general store on main street of Camrose after an absence of two years when he was in business in a store in Kingman.

The Alberta Pacific elevator Co. dismantled their elevator along the C.P.R. tracks. It had done business for 20 years and was replaced by another with a 40,000 bushel capacity.

Ranks of the pioneers was broken in the passing of Mrs. R. B. Price.

In the passing of Wm. (Billy) Duggan, another of the town's early pioneer business men passed away at Huntington Park, California. Three brothers, Charles, Paul and Tom are resident here.

1926

CLOSED IN SKATING RINK BUILT FOR CHILDREN

A new engine has arrived for the power plant and a new switchboard had been installed to take care of the engine.

Albert W. Mittlestadt who came to the Camrose district in 1900, passed away at the age of 65 years.

Mr. Sten Gunderson, a pioneer who homesteaded 6 miles north of Camrose in 1901, passed away.

Ten baseball teams entered in the tournament at the Camrose Fair with the Killam team victorious.

Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Sampson, pioneer residents of the town, were honored on the eve of their departure to the Pacific Coast to reside when town folks gathered in the town hall.

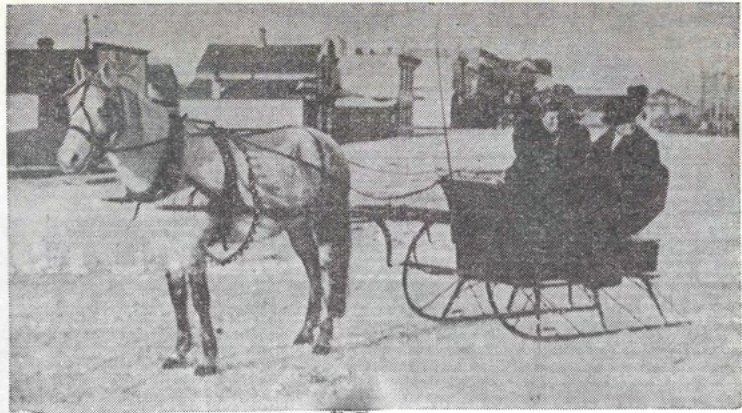
601 pupils were registered in the public schools, 465 in the practise school and 136 high school students registered for the year starting 1926.

Mrs. Harry Foucar passed away. She came to Edmonton when a small child with her parents, settled 7 miles south east of Camrose and in 1907 she married Harry Foucar, an early Camrose business man.

Supported by residents of the town, juniors and seniors, the closed skating rink was built during the summer. A dance floor was erected in one end and the Elks' held a carnival for a week.

F. M. "Mac" Smith was the winner of one of six University of Alberta matriculation scholarships, based on the results of the June examinations.

The newly completed building of the United Church was duly dedicated on Sunday. Rev. J. M. Millar, D.D., conducted the service.



Picture taken from the south end of Main Street. Mrs. Peter Scramstad and her daughter, Gunda (Mrs. Molvick of Kingman)

1927

INFANTILE PARALYSIS BECOMES EPIDEMIC

The fire truck purchased for the use of the Fire Department had proved a worthwhile investment, as all fires were quickly quelled the past year.

Seven cars were burned, which were owned by Camrose citizens and stored in the Camrose Auto Supplies Garage, in the first large fire in a period of a year's time.

H. U. Johnstone built a 20-foot addition of brick and tile to building purchased from Hugh Bertles. Langbell's Studio moved into the building vacated by Mr. Johnstone.

Sons of Norway Terje Viken, was organized with Martin Lind the first president.

Roth and Glatiotis became established in their new premises still known as the Pioneer Garage, which was formerly Auto Supplies.

Hugh McAfee purchased the Paulson-Curtiss Ford agency and took possession in August. The business was originally started by Francois Adam and sons in 1916. Other owners were Hamill & Curtiss, Mr. Hamill selling out to Mr. Paulson.

The 60th anniversary of the Confederation of Canada was celebrated in a giant jubilee celebration in Camrose on July 1st. The great bonfire was lighted by Margaret Dowling, Ohaton, the child found to have the premier claim to the longest Canadian lineage of any child in the district, tracing her ancestors in Canada back to 1730. The Elks' 35-piece band added to the celebration as well as a brilliant array of fire works.

A deal was put through whereby Oscar Adams, New Norway, came into possession of the Cockshutt Farm Machinery agency owned by V. E. Forster.

Byers Bros., proprietors of the Camrose Community Flour Mill, built an addition to the mill.

The corner stone for the new Masonic Temple was laid by M.W. Bro. Geo. Cruickshank, Grand Master A.F. and A.M.

There were 79 entries in the 2nd. Annual Golf Tournament with

approximately 50 of them visitors.

Infantile paralysis reached epidemic proportions in 1927 and Camrose undertook an extensive program to curb the disease.

The graduation exercises were largely attended when five nurses on the training staff at St. Mary's Hospital graduated. They were—Amelia Bronberg, Camrose; Flossie Kellington, Jr., Sask.; Kathleen Bosley, Camrose; Edna B. Lyseng, Armena, and Marie Gronberg of Camrose.

H. P. Curtiss purchased the Hudson-Essex automobile agency from C. R. Pearson. Mr. Curtiss erected a new garage.

\$500,000 was realized from the sale of school lands in the Camrose district.

The Masonic building being completed, J. A. Younge moved his store to the spacious ground floor of the new building.

J. T. Johnson, proprietor of the Camrose Job Press, moved last week to his new quarters in the front portion of the basement in the new Masonic Temple building.

Mr. Chris Roth who came to Canada in 1901 and settled in the Camrose district in 1902, passed away at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Atkinson.

Thos. Evans passed away in his 70th year. He came to Camrose in 1913. His farm, southwest of Camrose was operated by his sons.

1928

CAMROSE RADIO STATION C4HS GOES ON AIR

George Lowry of Camrose expanded his commercial business by purchasing the dry goods stock of Marshall Ltd., in Wetaskiwin and also acquired the Burns Block, south side of main street in which to house the stock which was expanded to include a grocery stock. The Camrose store was in charge of T. Wilson, a business associate.

The ratepayers' annual meeting revealed the fact that housing fell far short of the demand in 1927. Business places and churches were developed more in the past year than at any time in the history of the town.

Brody's Ltd. purchased the property that housed the Camrose Cafe immediately south of their store location.

A horse club was organized through the Exhibition Association with farmer members.

Camrose business men were setting an example in their efforts to keep the winter roads open to Camrose for motor traffic.

Ninety persons attended the Elks' first annual banquet held in the Arlington hotel. J. Nordmoe, Western Canada Ski Champion, and Paul Gotaas, winner of the 28-mile cross country race at Jasper, were introduced and honored as guests.

Head office of the Plunkett and Savage, wholesalers in fruit, announced opening of branch warehouse in Camrose.

New industry was established in Camrose when the Camrose Creamery started manufacturing ice cream.

Langbell broadcasting station, CAHS successfully broadcast the sermon of Rev. E. C. Hansell of the Camrose Baptist Church. He received 15 letters of appreciation of the broadcast.

Work has started by the Department of Public Works on Highway No. 13.

Members voted to enter the Camrose band in the contest to be held in Edmonton. Thos. Fishwick of Stettler trained the band.

An invitation dance marked the formal opening of the new Alice Hotel on the site where the former Windsor Hotel burned down.

Frank L. Farley let the contract to Thos. Nash, local carpenter for a one storey brick and tile building on the east side of main street, 25x50 feet. Lloyd-George Municipal office and E. A. Pearce electrical shop were housed in the new building.

The Camrose School Board carried out an extensive program of beautification of the High School grounds, by planting trees and shrubs.

Building during the month of June included an addition to the Lowry Store that increased the frontage on the building another 25 feet; an addition to the Pearce building increased the floor space of Peace Electric and Bertie's Drug Store. The Texas Oil Co. constructed a warehouse and erected tanks in Camrose, north of the C.P.R. tracks.

The Board of Trade arranged a Camrose District Exhibit for the Fair. 2,000 kiddies enjoyed the hospitality of the Elks' at the Fair.

In August the building program

added new businesses. P. M. McCabe, an Edmonton, man, an expert harness maker, opened up a harness and shoe repair business in the building vacated the week previous by Wm. Fowler. The British-American Grain Co. of Winnipeg built an elevator with a capacity of 40,000 bushels, along the C.N.R. tracks. A new Royal Bank building was also erected on the property just south of the Olson Block on the west side of main street, Thomas Robertson, a member of the Hoover and Robertson plumbing firm, passed away. He came to Canada in 1904 and to Camrose in 1911.

203 Normal students registered for the fall and winter term.

The corner stone of the new Norwegian Lutheran Church was laid Sept. 16. The church has a seating capacity for 350 persons, one of the largest churches here.

Considerable trackage was laid by the C.N.R. railroad to provide additional storage space for 120 cars, a new freight shed was built to provide for the increased freight handling.

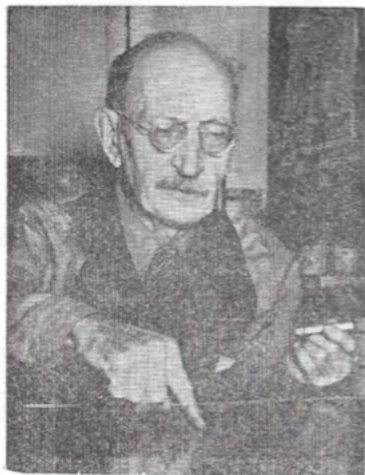
Dedicatory services were conducted in the new Baptist Church on Sept. 30.

Expansion of business made additional storage tanks necessary at the local Imperial Oil warehouse.

PIONEERS...

A Few of the Men of Worth and Wisdom Who Helped Lay the Foundations of Camrose

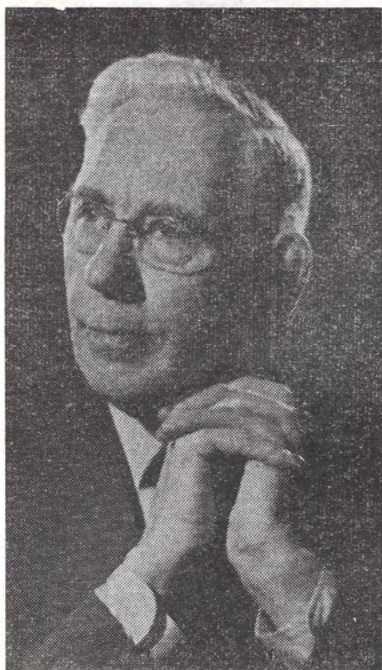
It is fitting that the living pioneers who have survived the development of Camrose from a Hamlet, to a Village, to a Town and finally on to the status of a City should be honored in these pages. Four of these men honored herein are actually in business now. Francois Adam, now nearing his 99th. birthday, is rightfully considered the Father of Camrose.



FRANCOIS ADAM

Belgian born Francois Adam, who is looking forward to his 99th birthday next January, has been linked with the history and growth of Camrose and district for close to seventy years. Born at Dinant, Belgium, and educated in the University of Louvain, Mr. Adam was a classmate of Paderewski, and lost a small fortune after World War One trying to run food through the blockade to the Polish homeland of Paderewski. Educated as a civil engineer, Mr. Adam did survey work for the Grand Trunk Pacific transcontinental railroad, and later the C.P.R., having a very active hand in the development

of the townsite of Stoney Creek, now Camrose. The wide main street in Camrose can be directly attributed to the result of Adam's negotiations with the C.P.R. Francois Adam was frequently a guest of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his wife after he first came to Canada. His tales of frontier fur trader days are always interesting. His indomitable spirit was demonstrated recently when he most ably responded to honors bestowed upon him at five public functions. He was always a friend to the Indians during their disturbed position with the coming of the white man.



C. L. LANGBELL

"Chris" Langbell has the distinction of being the oldest active businessman in Camrose, in terms of years in business, for Langbell Studios have been in constant operation since established in 1906. Radio has been his lifetime hobby and his station C4HS, going on the air in February of 1928, was the first radio station in Camrose, on a wave length of 250 meters and equipped with a 10-watt transmitter with a daylight range of around 8,000 square miles. His first studio was on the west side of Main Street, later used by Modern Laundry. His new studio was built in 1910 when his brother, Emil, joined him in business. Mr. Langbell was present at the official ceremonies, held in Edmonton in 1905, initiating Alberta as a province, when the Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Prime Minister of Canada, was the speaker. He stood directly below Sir Wilfrid when the official photograph of the occasion was taken.



CHAS. DUGGAN

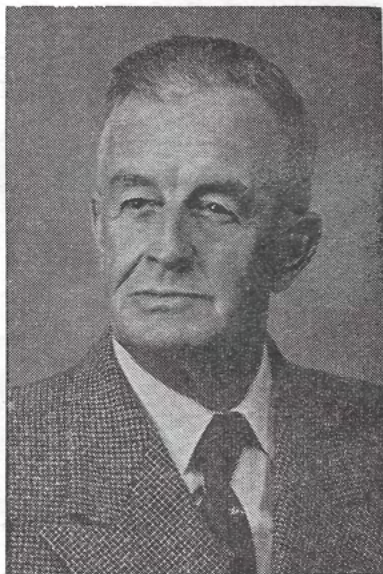
Charlie Duggan was one of

three Duggan brothers to come to Camrose in 1906, the other two being Bill, now deceased, and Tom, a farmer residing next to the City boundaries. Charlie immediately set himself up in the livestock business and a couple of years later was joined by Joe Gau, who had been operating a butcher shop in Daysland, in setting up a meat market in Camrose. This business has grown and developed into the present Duggan's Foodland and Locker Storage Plant, with his son, Fred, associated with him. Charlie's son, Joe, is associated with his father in the livestock business, which embraces large feed lots on the farm as well as livestock shipping business.



CHAS. T. BURROWS

Charlie Burrows was thoroughly schooled in the building trades when he came to Canada from England in 1908. After a year in Edmonton he settled in Camrose. He has operated a general contracting business here since that time, the business now known as Chas. T. Burrows & Sons. Many of the best buildings in Camrose were built by him, or under his direction.



C. S. (STAN) BAILEY

A resident of Camrose since 1907. First associated with Far-

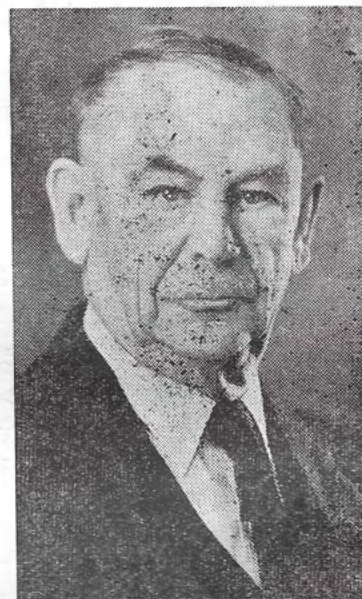
ley and Twomey, later entering the theatre field. Has the distinction of holding the longest record for individual ownership and operation of a theatre in all Canada, exceeding 34 years.

HARRY FOUCAR

(Also among the living pioneers is Harry Foucar, postmaster and hardware merchant, now retired and living at the Coast).

* * *

Harry Foucar, the first postmaster in Camrose, tells the humorous tale of political skulduggery which brought him his appointment. As a convenience to the new citizens of the town of Camrose, the Wetaskiwin post office sorted out the mail for here and put it in an open mail bag for the carrier to leave at Sampson's Store, as he drove on to Heather Brae and other points east. The custom was for the bag to be dumped on the floor and each man dive in to retrieve what mail there was for him. Standing beside George P. Smith one day when the mail arrived, Mr. Foucar suggested the need for a local post office. George P., as he was commonly known, asked if Foucar would take the job if he got him the appointment. Foucar agreed. In a very short time the appointment came through, and Camrose had a post office of its own.



JOHN W. RUSSELL

The first School Principal in Camrose, 1907. Is honored by having a large school named after him in the Jubilee City. Was elevated to the position of School Inspector in 1913. Besides being a keen educationist, he was an ardent member of the Masonic Lodge. Mr. Russell and Dr. P. F. Smith carried on a continuous friendly feud over their gladioli blooms, and for years people enjoyed the concentrated beauty of his choice flowers as they walked by his gardens. In his late declining years, Mr. Russell is residing with his daughter in London, Ontario.



THE ROMANCE OF THE OLE BAKKEN SHACK

So many tales have been told about the original Ole Bakken shack that it is hard to sort them out. Here again Harry Foucar, now a resident of Vancouver, comes to the rescue. He says there originally was a little stream that drained into Stoney Creek, starting beyond where the oil company supply tanks are now located and trickling down past where is now the Legion Hall, on past the Corner Drug location and through a slough where Ferris Motors is now located, and down a little ravine, now filled in, through the yards of the C.L.B.I. Ole Bakken built his original shack on the slopes of this ravine, not the banks of Stoney Creek, and it faced east. Its actual location was on what

is now 53rd. Street, in front of the Woskett residence. Ole Bakken was a robust man and he wanted water close to his door. Mr. Foucar also states that the slough where Ferris Motors and

the I.H.C. buildings now stand, was a favorite shooting spot for wild ducks, and many a morning he joined other hunters in taking a bag of game from the waters there.

Mayors of Camrose

THOMAS DAHL—	1907
ABRAHAM CODE—	1908
DENNIS TWOMEY—	1909-10-14
FRANK P. LAYTON—	1911-13
DAVID SUTHERLAND—	1915-16
OLE B. OLSON—	1917-18
VICTOR E. FORSTER—	1919-22
GEORGE LOWRY—	1923-24
JOHN DOUGLAS—	1925-28
H. P. CURTISS—	1929-30
JAMES A. CODE—	1931-34
CLARENCE PEARSON—	1935-38
PERCY A. EAST—	1939-44
ROBERT H. HUME—	1945-

Seeking Industrial Development

With the rapid expansion of industries in and around Edmonton, it is only natural that Camrose should be anticipating industrial invasion. At the present time the Byers Flour Mills, makers of Sunny Boy Cereal, are the major industry of the City. This business was established in 1926 by the late Walter Byers, who came here from Nova Scotia. The business is carried on by his sons, Laurie and Ralph. Then there is the Alberta Seed Growers' Legume Seed Cleaning Plant, the largest plant of its kind in the British Empire. Other industries here include the Northern Alberta Dairy Pool plant, up for re-building, the Imperial Lumber woodworking plant,

Price's Bakery, Shirley's Bakery, and subsidiary sheet metal workers.

GOOD TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES

Camrose is singularly fortunate in transportation facilities. The C.P.R. main line to Winnipeg from Edmonton goes through here. The C.N.R. lines to Drumheller and Calgary from Edmonton cut through Camrose, with an additional system of branch lines. These services are supplemented by well organized motor transport services.

Camrose is on a modern paved highway, No. 13, feeding in from the east from Hardisty and connecting west and north right into Edmonton.

NEW RADIO STATION

Camrose is now featured on the air waves by the new radio station, CFCW, opened almost coincident with the City status, in November 1954.

A GREAT NATURAL ASSET

Perhaps the greatest natural asset of Camrose City is the gift of nature . . . the beauty of its natural setting. The gentle slopes of the valley running through the City, the undulating hills covered with natural growth trees, the natural park that is being developed . . . all added to the human desire to make of the city a place of beautiful homes . . . a joy to the owners and occupants, and an attraction to the visitors from outside points.

Some Names Recorded In The Early History of Camrose

If you have read through the chronology preceding this part of the book you will have been impressed by many names of pioneers who featured prominently in the City's early development. It was impossible to get pictures and cuts of all who deserve a place in this book, nor was space available for their use.

Definitely, George P. Smith should have had a place, but when the "morgue" was searched his engraving was missing.

There was Hiram Burgar who came in 1905, passing away in August, 1949. He was born in Vienna, Ontario. He rode with Frank Pike from Wetaskiwin to open the first bank in Camrose. His activities were in hardware and furniture, later devoting full time to the funeral direction business, as now carried on by his son, Rod.

There was Harry Foucar, the first postmaster, who ran same in his grocery store. He was

followed as postmaster by J. H. Rushton, which signified the change from Liberal to Conservative governments, as was the custom of the day. Mr. Foucar has retired to Vancouver. Mr. Rushton is long deceased.

There was Frank P. Layton, an early Mayor and long time business man, father of "Duff" Layton.

There was Dennis Twomey Sr., associated with many early activities in Camrose and with the

development of the coal resources.

There was R. B. Price, one of the earliest merchants, father of the late Frank Price, the late Peter Price, who lost his life in World War II, and the father of Mrs. Nick Bayko.

There was I. Z. Hills, who was here before the townsite was thought of, and many years a prominent business man, as proprietor of the Camrose Drug Store.

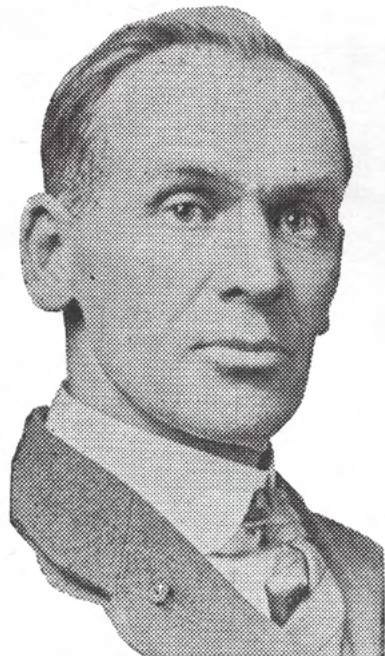
You will have seen the name of Dr. G. G. Stewart mentioned in several places as well as that of Dr. McEachern, who later moved to Edmonton. Dr. Lamb, who was associated with them in the early days, moved from Camrose and has recently returned to live in retirement here.

There was Gilbert Hoyme, of the firm of Hoyme & Christenson, who was a particular friend of the Scandinavians. His death came in August, 1949.

Then one comes into such names as Adair Younge and his brother, Watson Younge, prominent early merchants. Adair Younge passed away here in 1952, and Mrs. Younge now lives in St. Paul, Minn. Watson is still living in Ontario.

There was J. T. Johnson, proprietor of the Camrose Job Press for many years, his son, Rolf, continuing the business. Mr. Johnson passed away on the train while returning home from Toronto. He was prominent in Liberal politics.

Then one runs into such family names as Thomas Dahl, Fred Pratt, D. R. Francoeur, J. B. Taylor, E. V. Kerr, A. J. Ofrim, A. Maland, Ed. Thompson, the Kehoe's, Frank Mohler, Ellsworth Hills, Jack Lang, and many others.



DUNCAN SAMPSON

Duncan Sampson, the first merchant in Camrose, had the honor of purchasing the first townsite lot and built the first business, arriving in Stoney Creek from Ontario in 1904. He remained in business here until 1926,

when he moved to New Westminster. He sat on the Town Council from 1910 until 1913, on the School Board, and was also instrumental in helping to organize the Camrose Agricultural Society. He died in 1930.



J. K. BURGESS

James Kennedy Burgess was associated with the development of Camrose from the year 1907, the senior partner in the law firm of Burgess & McKay. He was born at Bala, Ontario, and received his law schooling at the University of Toronto and Osgoode Hall. He was admitted to the bar of the Northwest Territories at Wetaskiwin in 1904. He passed away Feb. 14, 1951. His son, Alex, carries on in his profession. He is also survived by Mrs. Burgess and a daughter, Mrs. Keith MacLean, of Vancouver.



DR. P. F. SMITH

Perhaps no single person in the history of Camrose left such a deep influence upon the general population as did the late Dr. P. F. Smith. Born in Prince

Edward Island, he studied at John Hopkins University and graduated as a gold medalist. He practised for a short time in Birmingham, Alabama, but the call of Canada was too strong within him. He came to Camrose in 1912, but had to write for his Canadian Medical License after coming here, associating himself with Dr. G. G. Stewart. Besides being official Doctor for the C.N.R., he won the hearts of thousands of patients by his sheer merit and his understanding of the human frailty of those enduring suffering. He passed away in 1949. He was also a keen horticulturist.



FRANK L. FARLEY

From the year 1907, all through the development of Camrose up to the time of his death in 1949, the name of Frank Farley appears as one constantly and consistently promoting Camrose. He was born in St. Thomas, Ontario, the son of John Farley, K.C. He was educated as a school teacher and tried his hand as a bank clerk. The West drew him like a magnet. He came to Red Deer in 1892 and filed on a homestead. In 1907 he came to Camrose and conducted a real estate business with Dennis Twomey, also engaging in the coal business. He became interested in the study of bird life before leaving Ontario, and after coming here authored a book entitled "Birds of the Battle River Valley". He was internationally recognized as an authority in ornithology. He inspired Dr. Arthur Twomey to enter the same field, he now being Curator of the Ornithology Division of the Pittsburgh-Carnegie Museum; also, he sparked Roland Hawkins, son of James N. Hawkins of Camrose, into the same field. Roland is now Aviculturist at the Pittsburgh Aviary-Conservatory. For seven years previous he had been associated with Dr. Arthur Twomey on the Carnegie Museum staff, going to the States from the National Museum at Ottawa.

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