

BELMONT: An excerpt from the Balduer Gazette 1899 Special Edition

On the advent of the Northern Pacific and Manitoba railway into this part of Southern Manitoba in 1890 a number of towns were at once started on the Morris- Brandon branch and among them Belmont, situated on section twenty Tp. 5, Rge. 15, 102 miles from Morris, and 42 miles from Brandon. Unlike the majority of her sister towns throughout the province Belmont is not situated on the level prairie but on an elevation so that besides being the most picturesque site along the Northern Pacific branch good natural drainage is secured.

The first to erect buildings in the new burg were Frank Burnett, financial agent of Glenboro, and Axford Bros., general merchants, from the same town. These were soon followed by representatives of other lines of business and the town enjoyed a gradual growth until 1898 when the Northern Pacific railway went on with the construction of the long expected Hartney branch and, Belmont being selected as the junction town, the railway company enlarged the station and for coal dock, made this the, headquarters for the roadmaster and otherwise improved their property to enable them to handle the increased business secured. This district is noted for the superior quality of its No. 1 hard and the prairie land to the north and the Craigilea district south and east of Belmont take front rank among the wheat producing districts of the province. While six miles west Pelican Lake, a beautiful sheet of water 16 miles long by 2 wide, is destined to be the ideal summer resort of the future. Between Belmont and the lake the land consists principally of rolling prairie

Situated as I have described with the immense natural advantages mentioned, the citizens of Belmont have every confidence in the future prosperity of their town, which now has the following business men:

J. H. STANDING, GENERAL MERCHANT.

GEO. TUMOTH, GENERAL MERCHANT.

CHAS. CANNON, BANKER, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE.

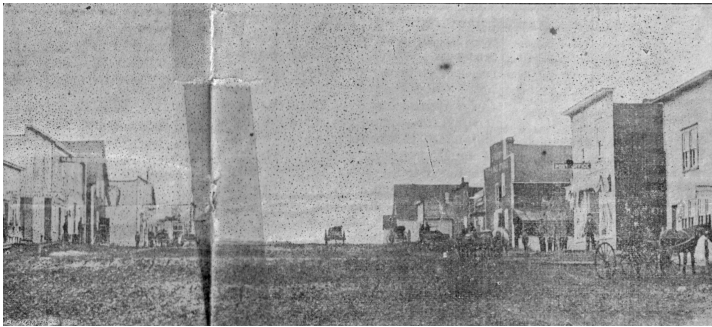
FRANK SPARKS, HARDWARE AND FURNITURE.

A. C. HOUGHTON, IMPLEMENT DEALER AND MACHINE AGENT



Hardware Store of F.F. Parks- Photo by F. Stevens

. **T. SMITH**, GENERAL MERHCANT.
ALEX. TUMOTH, GROCER AND FRUIT DEALER
W. B. OXFORD, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE AGENT.
JOS. KERR, IMPLEMENT AGENT
J. R. SPEARE, BAKER AND FRUIT AND CONFECTIONERY.
GEO. WALDEN, FRUIT AND CONFECTIONERY.
W. H. BOOTH, DRUGGIST.
W. S. FORGEY, LUMBER DEALER.
ROBT. SCOTT, EDITOR BELMONT STAR AND JOB PRINTER.
J. T. MUTCHISON, M, D. PHYSICIAN.
W. N. J. HUST, V. S. VETERINARY SURGEON.
R. McDONALD HARNESS MAKER.
J, FITZ-ROY HALL, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE AGENT.
A. MARQUIS, TAILOR AND READY-MADE CLOTHING.
T. McLENNAN BLACKSMITH.
W. McMILLAN HOTEL AND LIVERY.
T. CORNER, BLACKSMITH.
JOS. BULGER, BUTCHER.
E. SPALDING, CARPENTER
ROBT. THYMIE, STONE MASON.



Main Street, Belmont, Looking South – Photo by F. Stevens

ELEVATORS.

The Dominion Elevator Co., and the Northern Elevator Co. have elevators at this point, each with a capacity of 30,000 bushels. The grain shipped in 1898, reached the total of 200,000 bushels, which is sufficient proof to demonstrate the nature of the country lying around the town.

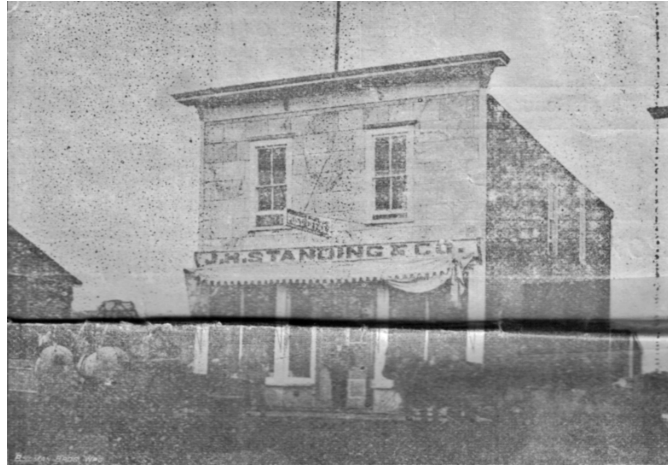
BUSINESS MEN.

Mr. J. H. Standing, a cut of whose store is given, is the town's most active businessman and a pioneer resident. The firm is conducted under the name of J. H. Standing & Co and does the long end of the general store trade of the town and district. A large and well-assorted stock is carried and the amount of business transacted in the year moves well up into the thousands.

Outside of his business, Mr. Standing takes an active part in every movement tending to the interest of the town, and is well known for his sociability and general good nature.

Mr F. F. Sparks, hardware merchant, a cut of whose business premises appears on this page, is another of Belmont's most popular and esteemed business men. A thorough believer in the future of the town and country, his ready help is always foremost in promoting its welfare,

Mr. A. O. Houghton, implement agent, and proprietor of the Belmont livery stables, does larger business in farm machinery than any other portion of this district. During the past year he turned over \$50,000 worth of implements including several threshing outfits. He has just completed a five thousand dollar brick mansion, three stories with basement and lighted throughout with acetylene gas. In the spring he will erect a three structure solid stone warehouse, with hall. Mr. Houghton, as with all the others quoted in these pages has made his money in this country.



General Store, J.H. Standing & Co., Belmont – Photo by F. Stevens