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 Economic Survey of the Village of Strome



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GOVERNMENT

OF THE

PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD



Economic Survey

Village of STROME

Industry
 DEPARTMENT OF ~~ECONOMIC AFFAIRS~~

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 MINISTER

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ECONOMIC SURVEY
VILLAGE OF STROME

by

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

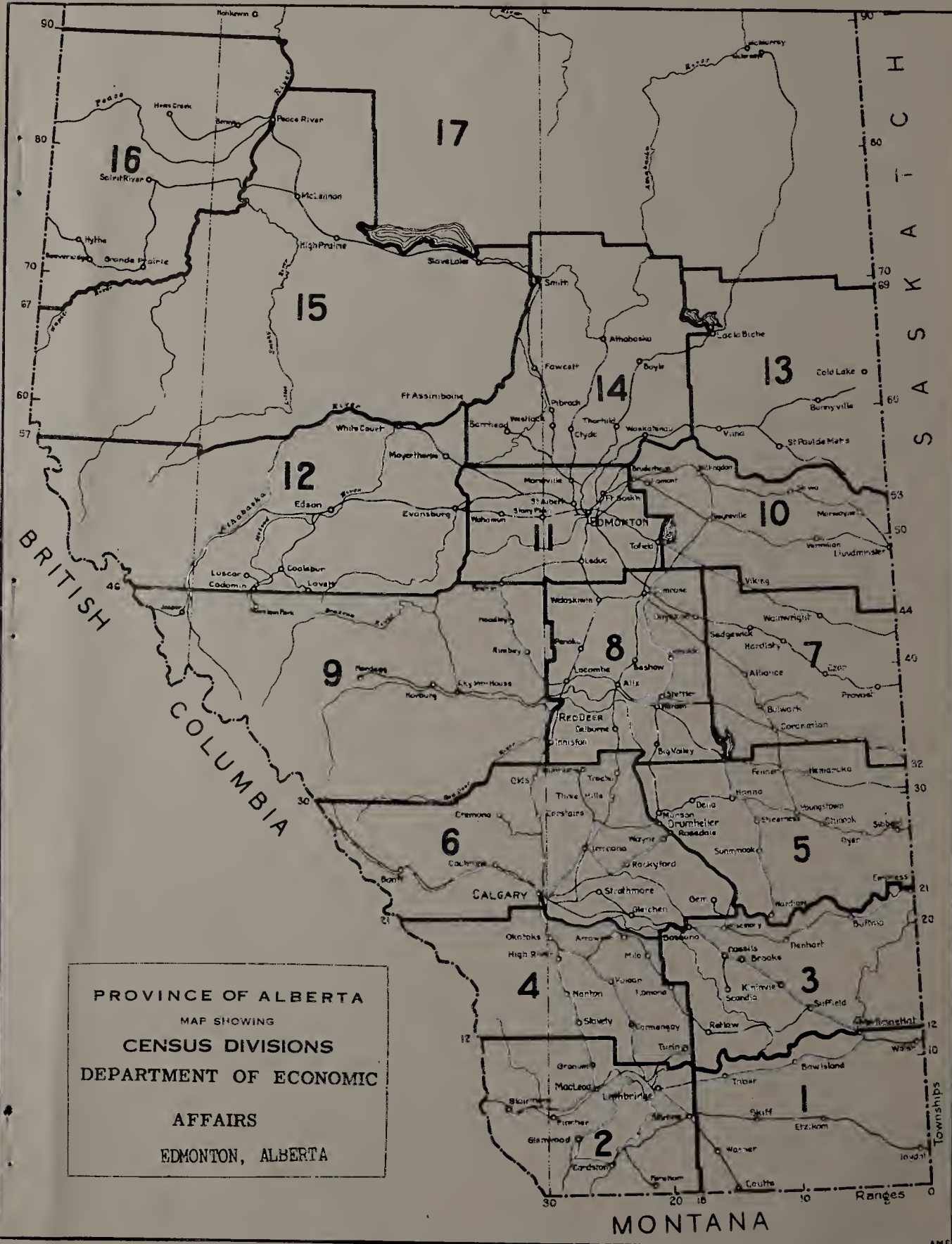
This survey was compiled with the assistance of village officials, Board of Trade and citizens who were familiar with the history of the village.

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JUNE 1950

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PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
 MAP SHOWING
CENSUS DIVISIONS
 DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC
AFFAIRS
 EDMONTON, ALBERTA

S A S K A T C H
 90
80
70
69
60
53
50
44
40
32
30
21
20
12
10
0
 Townships
 Ranges
 30 20 10

MONTANA

VILLAGE OF STROME - JUNE 1950

(1) LOCATION

On the north half of section 23-44-15-W4 in Census Division No. 7. This location is 105 miles southeast of Edmonton on Highway No. 13, and on the Canadian Pacific Railway line Edmonton to Winnipeg.

(2) ALTITUDE

2,270 ft. Lat. 52/49 Long. 112/03

(3) TEMPERATURE

Mean Summer Temperature	55 ^o F
Mean Winter Temperature	21 ^o F
Mean Annual Temperature	36 ^o F

Note: The foregoing is estimated from data obtained from the nearest weather stations and covers a period of 15 years.

(4) RAIN FALL

Average Rainfall	11.53 inches
Average Snowfall	40.4 inches
Average Total Precipitation	15.57 inches

Note: The foregoing is estimated from data obtained from the nearest weather stations and covers a period of 15 years.

(5) GEOLOGY

Bedrock of this area is a dark gray marine shale which is assigned to the Bearpaw formation of Upper Cretaceous age. These shales contain some bentonitic material and comparatively large quantities of salts. This latter feature makes the Bearpaw generally unsuitable as a water horizon.

(6) SOIL

The soil in the Strome area is in the Shallow Black Zone.

Soil Profile

The normal profile has an A horizon that averages about 10 inches in depth and which in its upper three to six inches is black in color. The remainder is usually dark brown. The B horizon is usually brown to dark brown and the lime horizon (Bca) is found at depths of 24 to 30 inches below the surface. Generally the depth to the lime layer is considered as indicative of the efficiency of rain penetration.

Fertility

Soils in this zone are usually fairly well supplied with nitrogen and organic matter. In any zone exhaustive cropping depletes the soils native food supply and fibre. A permanent system of cropping provides for the adequate replacement of depleted plant food and the maintenance of organic matter.

Vegetation

Grassland in which bluffs of trees are found in places where moisture conditions are more favorable.

Land Use

A greater number of soil types can be considered arable than in the brown zones. Wheat is the principal crop grown, but considerably more diversification is possible and should be practised to maintain soil fertility. The non-arable land is generally very good pasture.

(7) HISTORY

Strome derived its name from an early Swedish family of that name, who settled in the district. The first Post Office in the district was named Knollton and was changed in 1906.

The village was surveyed by the C.P.R. in 1905 and 1906. The first train arrived in the fall of 1906 when the tracks were completed as far east as Hardisty.

The train left Wetaskiwin in the morning and arrived in Hardisty in the afternoon.

The first station agent was C.A.Kent.

Old-timers in the district are the Strome family, J. W. Heric, W. T. Phipps, J.G. Fierengarten, J.R.Pointer, W. Gair and G. J. Cook.

First merchants in town were J.W. Heric who operated a general store, W. T. Phipps and J. G. Fierengarten who operated a hardware store.

The village was incorporated in 1907.

The first postmaster was J.W. Heric who housed the Post Office in his store.

With the coming of the railroad settlers arrived in large numbers. Many of them filed on homesteads and many others purchased farms from the C.P.R.

(8) LIVING CONDITIONS

Strome is impressive for its well kept buildings and wide streets.

Lake resorts are very close, the principal one being Hardisty Lake.

Educational facilities are provided for grades 1 to 12. The average rent for a modern five roomed house with electricity is \$20.00 per month. Plenty of vacant lots are available.

Number of new buildings built during 1947	2
Number of new buildings built during 1948	3
Number of new buildings built during 1949	2

(9) ADMINISTRATION

The village is governed by a Mayor, chosen from the Council, and two Councillors, one of whom is elected each year for a three year term. The Secretary-Treasurer carries out the policy set by the Council.

(10) LAWS AND REGULATIONS

Plans for new constructions are regulated under the building code and zoning by-laws and must be approved by the Council after which a permit is issued.

The Alberta Public Health Regulations govern the Sanitary By-Laws.

The Electrical Code conforms to the Alberta Electrical Protection Act.

The village is policed by a Constable hired by the village. Garbage is collected weekly.

(11) FIRE PROTECTION

At present there is no fire department or equipment. However, negotiations are being carried on to purchase a Village Queen Pumper with attachments which should be in operation this year.

(12) TAX STRUCTURE

1949 Net Assessment

Land 100% of value	\$22,470
Improvement 100% of value	111,292
Total	<u>\$133,762</u>

Mill Rate

<u>School</u>	<u>Municipal</u>	<u>Hospital</u>	<u>Total</u>
30	25	10	65 mills

(13) AREAS

Area of village	320 acres
Streets and roads	16 acres
Parks	42 acres

Miles of Streets, Roads and Alleys

	<u>Gravel</u>	<u>Ungravelled</u>	<u>Unopened</u>	<u>Total</u>
Provincial Main	1.75			1.75
Roads and Streets	4		2	6
Sidewalks		2	1	3
Total				<u>10.75</u>

(14) SEWERS AND WATER MAIN MILEAGE

Not installed.

(15) POWER

Three phase 60 cycle power is supplied under a ten year franchise by the Calgary Power.

Rates

Domestic Service

Available only for lighting, heating, cooking, domestic power and ordinary uses in private houses and apartments used exclusively for residential purposes.

First 20 KWH (or Less) per month \$2.30 gross minimum subject to 30 cents prompt payment discount, making \$2.50 net minimum. All over 20 KWH used per month 1.0 cents net per KWH .

Note: Discount of 30 cents applies on all bills paid within discount period.

The foregoing rate applies where the maximum demand does not exceed 5 kilowatts. Where the demand exceeds 5 kilowatts,

an additional monthly demand charge of 50 cents per kilowatt is made.

Connection Charge for new Consumers \$1.00.

Reconnection Charge \$5.00.

Commercial Service

Available where other rates listed do not apply.

Service Charge

First 500 watts of installed capacity .70 cents per month.
Each additional 250 watts of installed capacity .20 cents per month.

Energy Charge

First 50 K. W. H. per month per K. W. of installation 10 cents per K. W. H.

Next 150 K.W.H. per month per K. W. of installation 5 cents per K. W. H.

All over 200 K. W. H. per month per K. W. of installation $2\frac{1}{4}$ cents per K. W. H.

Discount: 10% if paid within discount period based on even dollars only of total bill, with a minimum discount of 30 cents.

Minimum Charge \$1.80 gross \$1.50 net per month.

Minimum Deposit \$5.60.

Reconnection Charge \$3.00

Power

(A.C.) Available for motors, rectifiers, commercial heating apparatus, etc, in commercial establishments.

Service Charge

\$1.00 per month per kilovolt-ampere (KVA) of installation (one motor horsepower or one kilowatt in heating apparatus to be considered equivalent to 1 K. V. A.)

Energy Charge

First 50 K. W. H. per month per K. V. A. of installation 5 cents per K. W. H.

Next 50 K. W. H. per month per K. V. A. of installation $3\frac{1}{3}\%$ per K. W. H.

Over 100 K. W. H. per month per K. V. A. of installation $1\frac{2}{3}\%$ per K. W. H.

Discount: 10% if paid within discount period - based on the even dollars only of total bill, with a minimum discount of 30 cents.

Minimum Charge \$3.30 gross \$3.00 net per month.

Minimum Deposit \$2.00 per H.P. with Minimum of \$6.00.

Reconnection Charge \$6.00.

(16) WATER

Water is obtained from local wells.

Water Analysis

	<u>Parts per Million</u>
Color	10
Turbidity	trace
Ph	8.1
<u>Solids</u>	
Suspended	trace
Dissolved	976
Organic	30
Mineral	946
Silica (SiO ₂).....	3
Iron (Fe)	1.5
Calcium (Ca)	68
Magnesium (Mg).....	19
Sodium (Na)	248
Bicarbonate (NCC ₃)....	305
Carbonate	trace
Chloride (Cl)	6
Nitrate (NO ₃)	0.4
Alkalinity	410
Total Hardness	250
Carbonate Hardness ...	250
<u>Hypothetical Combinations</u>	
Calcium Carbonate	170
Magnesium Carbonate...	67
Sodium Carbonate	170
Sodium Sulphate	526
Sodium Chloride	10
Silica	3
Organic Matter	30

(17) GAS

Not installed.

(18) L.P. GAS

Heat value 2,521 b.t.u. per cu. ft. at 60°F.
 100 lb. cylinder \$9.75
 No bulk storage tanks in the village.

(19) DIESEL FUEL

Heat value 135,000 to 140,000 b.t.u. per gal. at 60°F
 Summer Grade 18.7 cents per gal plus 1 cent tax per gal.
 Winter Grade 19.9 cents per gal. plus 1 cent tax per gal.
 Storage capacity 3,000 gallons.

(20) COAL

Coal is secured from the Forestburg field.

Rate	<u>Stoker</u>	<u>Nut</u>	<u>Lump</u>
	\$5.00 ton	\$6.00 ton	\$7.00 ton.

(21) LOCAL RESOURCES

Straw
 Cereal
 Grass Seed

Dairy Products - milk, cream, butter etc.
 Poultry and Eggs, etc.
 Horses, cattle, sheep, hogs.
 Honey
 Gravel

(22) GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND SERVICESFederal

Post Office

Provincial

Telephone Office
 Treasury Branch

Municipal

Village Hall housing
 Village Office
 Secretary-Treasurer
 Committee Rooms
 Council Chamber
 Village Constable
 Garbage Collected Weekly

(23) HEALTH SERVICES

The closest hospital is at Daysland ten miles west. There is no doctor in the village, only one drug store is available for medical purposes. A Doctor from Sedgewick visits Strome Tuesday and Thursday each week.

(24) PROFESSIONAL AND SKILLED SERVICES
(not including health services)

<u>Type of Service</u>	<u>No. of Establishments</u>
Barber Shop	1
Public Accountant	1

(25) TRANSPORTATION

Canadian Pacific Railway - Edmonton to Winnipeg via Strome.

Sunburst Motor Coach - Edmonton to Provost via Strome.

Daily truck service to Edmonton,

(26) NEWSPAPERS

Nil

(27) COMMUNICATIONS

Canadian Pacific Telegraph
 Alberta Government Telephones
 Post Office
 Air Mail through Post Office
 Nearest Radio Station - Lacombe C.B.X.

(28) FINANCIAL FACILITIES

Bank of Montreal

(29) HOTELS

	<u>No. of Rooms</u>	<u>Rates</u>	<u>Licensed</u>
Selkirk	12	\$1.50 up	yes

(30) TOURIST CAMPS

Nil

(31) CHURCHES

Roman Catholic
United
Gospel Hall

(32) LODGES

Masonic

(33) SERVICE CLUBS

Board of Trade
Canadian Legion

(34) SOCIETIES

Agricultural Society

(35) EDUCATION

Strome has three school buildings with four class rooms. There are four teachers with one hundred and fifteen students. Two vans bring the rural pupils into the village school. Grades one to nine inclusive are taught. The following optional subjects are taught:

Typewriting 1st. yr.
Office Practice 1st. yr.
Bookkeeping 1st yr.
Art
Home Economics
Music

(36) THEATRES AND HALLS

	<u>Capacity</u>	<u>Stage</u>	<u>Piano</u>
Memorial Hall	250	yes	yes

(37) CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

There is no library in the village. There is one local four piece orchestra.

(38) YOUTH ACTIVITIES

<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>
Calf Club	Nil

(39) SPORTS

Sports Association including
Baseball
Hockey
Soft Ball
Football
Tennis
Curling

Covered curling rink with three sheets natural ice
 Open air skating and hockey rink.
 Playgrounds
 Good shooting for ducks and geese.

(40) FAIRS

Sports day only

(41) HISTORIC SITES

Memorial Hall built in honor of the veterans of the First World War.

(42) CO-OPERATIVES

Alberta Pool Elevator
 Alberta Poultry Producers
 Co-operative General Store
 Co-op Machinery Distributor
 Maple Leaf Co-op Oil Distributors

(43) INDUSTRIES AND BUSINESSES

Type of Business	No. of Ests.	Producer or Manufacturer	Whole sale	Re- tail
Banks	1	-	-	-
Books and Stationery	1	See Drug Store		
Butchers	1	-	-	1
Building Contractors	1	-	-	1
Blacksmiths	1	-	-	1
Cartage Delivery	1	-	-	1
Clothing (Men's) ..	1	-	-	1
Coal Dealers	2	-	-	2
Department Stores	3	-	-	3
Drugs	1	-	-	1
Egg Grading Stations	1	-	1	-
Flour Mills	1	1	1	1
Feed Mills	1	1	1	1
Garages & Service Stations	4	-	-	4
Grain Elevators	5	Total Capacity 338,000 bus.		
Hardware	1	-	-	1
Hotels	1	-	-	1
Implements	3	-	-	3
Insurance Office ..	1	-	-	1
Lumber Yards	1	-	-	1
Milk Distributors	1	-	1	1
Oil Distributors	3	-	3	-
Painters & Decorators	1	-	-	1
Pool Rooms	1	-	-	1
Propane Gas Storage	1	-	-	1
Restaurants	2	-	-	2
Welding & Machine Shop	1	-	-	1
Woodworking	1	-	-	1

(44) SITES

Sites for large or small industries along the C.P. R. tracks or along the highway are available from the village. Home sites are also available from the village.

(45) INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Strome could support a cold storage locker, bowling and billiard hall, a part time dentist and doctor, or any other industry that could use the district's natural resources.

(46) TRADING AREA

On the north for ten miles.
On the west for five miles.
On the south for twelve miles.
On the east for five miles.

(47) POPULATION

Trading area population	980	1946 census.
Village population	233	1946 census.
Village population Dec. 31.		1949 - 175 (estimated)

(48) INTERESTING VIEWS OF STROME AND DISTRICT

