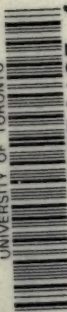


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Medicine Hat, Alta. Board  
of Trade  
Medicine Hat, Alberta



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Herbert Otto Frind, Esq.

# MEDICINE HAT ALBERTA

JUN 12 1962

"The town that was born lucky."—Kipling



Blowing off a Gas Well at Medicine Hat, the world's greatest natural gas field; Western Canada's manufacturing centre; Canada's richest agricultural area.

FACTS CONCERNING THE CITY AND  
SURROUNDING COUNTRY

Issued by the Board of Trade 1918

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*Municipally Owned Utilities*



*Natural Gas—the Cheapest Fuel and  
Light in Canada*



*Electric Power at Attractive Rates that  
will stand comparison*



*Water which for Cheapness and Purity  
is unsurpassed*



*Greatest Mill Centre in West—Six Million  
Bushels of Wheat turned into  
Flour per year*

# Medicine Hat

## WHERE AND WHY



EDICINE HAT is a city of over eleven thousand population, beautifully situated on the banks of the Saskatchewan River, and in the heart of the rich prairie country known as "Sunny Southern Alberta."

The city possesses several special features which tend to make it a thriving and prosperous centre. On account of the cheap fuel obtained from its natural gas field, Medicine Hat boasts of being the chief manufacturing centre of the Western Provinces. It is located about midway between Calgary and Moose Jaw, and hence is the distributing centre for a large and rich area of country. The school system of the city is one of the very best. The health of the city is good; much credit for which is due to the excellent water system and to the fine climate of this part of Western Canada.

**NATURAL GAS**—No kindling wood, no ordering of coal, no coal bin, no waiting for fires to burn up or die down, no smoke, no dust, no ashes, no trouble when wind or weather change suddenly : : **NO HEATLESS DAYS.**  
Clean Safe Cheap Efficient



"I never imagined you had so many trees—and so many automobiles," is a frequent remark made by visitors to "The Gas City."

# NATURAL GAS

**M**EDICINE HAT'S greatest asset, its natural gas, immediately attracts the attention of the visitor, and the following questions come to his mind in regard to it: What is the composition of this gas? What is its origin? And of what use is it?

Medicine Hat's natural gas is noted for its purity. It is composed principally of Methane, otherwise known as Marsh Gas, Fire Damp, or Light Carburetted Hydrogen. In most localities of its occurrence, natural gas contains 80 to 90 per cent. Methane, the remainder of the gas being made up of heavier hydrocarbons and air constituents. In many cases the heavier hydrocarbons are capable of condensation as "natural gas gasoline." Medicine Hat natural gas, however, contains 92 to 95 per cent. Methane, and is known as a "dry gas," having insufficient moisture or heavier hydrocarbons to cause any trouble in the pipes from condensation and freezing.

Methane is composed of the chemical elements carbon and hydrogen in proportion by weight of three of carbon to one of hydrogen. Hydrogen is our lightest known gas, and is noted for the heat of its flame. Next to pure hydrogen Methane has the highest power of all common gases. Householders find that at 20c per thousand cubic feet (the price charged in Medicine Hat) a house can be heated for half what it would cost to heat with anthracite coal at \$7.00 per ton. Since manufacturers secure a rate of five cents per thousand cubic feet, it is little to be wondered that Medicine Hat is becoming the manufacturing centre of the West.

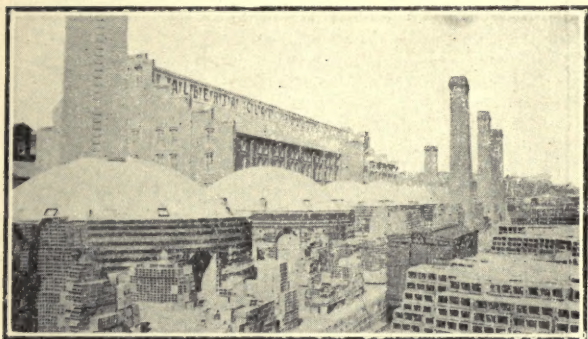
The origin of natural gas is a matter upon which scientists disagree. Some claim that the gas has been driven off by the interior heat of the earth from strata of rock containing animal and vegetable matter deposited in ocean, lake or swamp, subsequent upheaval by drainage making the area dry land. Others claim that the gas has been formed by the action of water at considerable depths upon materials somewhat resembling calcium carbide, much after the manner of the preparation of acetylene. In any case the Medicine Hat gas field occurs in a huge anticline. Owing possibly to earth shrinkage the crust of the earth has become folded, and the gas has worked into the upper portions of these folds through crevices in the rock below. At Medicine Hat the gas occurs in a sandstone layer known as the Niobrara formation, where it is reached by boring to a depth of 1100 feet. Elsewhere in Alberta natural gas is obtained from the Dakota sands, which probably would be reached at Medicine Hat by boring to a depth of 2,100 feet.

The manufacturing possibilities of Medicine Hat natural gas are exceptional, not only from a fuel standpoint, but also when we consider what can be made from the gas itself. Some interesting experiments have been conducted in the city showing how carbon-black, chloroform and other products can be obtained from the gas. Owing to its purity the gas can be used in manufacturing processes not possible in the majority of natural gas localities.



### ALBERTA FOUNDRY AND MACHINE CO.

Natural gas melts the steel and dries the cores for the steel foundry; also provides steam for power and heating the plant.



### ALBERTA CLAY PRODUCTS CO.

Natural gas burns the huge kilns and furnishes power for running the machinery and for steam drying.



### ALBERTA ROLLING MILLS

Natural gas heats, to 2800 degrees, three furnaces in which scrap iron is brought to a welding heat; it runs the power plant, consisting of a 500 h. p. Corliss engine and a 25 h. p. Bessemer gas engine; it also heats the mills.

# HEAT, POWER AND LIGHT

**T**HE following rates for Heat, Light and Power, obtaining in Medicine Hat, will enable one to judge of the practical value of the natural gas.

It is municipally owned and is the only fuel used in the city for domestic use. The citizen is charged 20 cents per thousand cubic feet, while the rates for manufacturers are 5 cents per thousand cubic feet.

The gas again is used for the production of electric current in the city's up-to-date power plant. This electric current for lighting and power is supplied at rates varying from 1 cent to 6 cents per k.w. hour, according to the consumption.



## MUNICIPAL POWER PLANT

Combined electric power and water pumping plant. Natural gas is burned in the furnace of water tube boilers. Steam turbines are used for prime movers. Two steam turbines 700 k.w. each, and one of 1,500 k. w. capacity comprise the generator units.

## A HIVE OF INDUSTRY

Below is a list of the larger industries in operation in Medicine Hat. These plants represent an investment of approximately \$3,500,000 and the total of their monthly tonnage exceeds 33,000. They employ 1,500 hands, whose monthly payroll is about \$125,000.

Alberta Clay Products, Alberta Foundry and Machine Co., Alberta Linseed Oil Mills, Alberta Rolling Mills, Canada Western Manufacturing and Supply Co., Gas City Brick Co., Gas City Planing Mills, Hedley Shaw Milling Co., Lake of the Woods Milling Co., Medalta Stoneware Co., Medicine Hat Brewery, Medicine Hat Planing Mills, Medicine Hat Pump and Brass Manufacturing Co., Ogilvie Flour Mills, Preston Planing Mills, Rosery Flower Company, Tabor Candy Company.

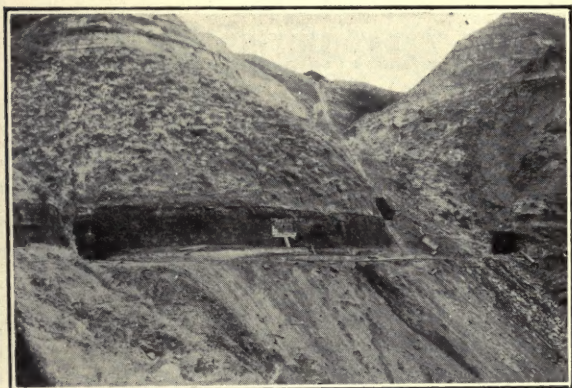


# TRANSPORTATION

**M**EDICINE HAT is at the junction of the CANADIAN PACIFIC main line with the C.P.R. Crow's Nest line, and has connection also with the Soo Line of the same system. One hundred train and engine crews operate from the city, and a pay roll upwards of \$50,000 is distributed in the city each month.

THE CANADIAN NORTHERN has a line surveyed from Hanna to Medicine Hat and has bought land in this city for its station, yards and shops. As this booklet goes to press, work is about to start on this line which will serve a prosperous farming country.

THE GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC also has a surveyed route into Medicine Hat.



## THE ANSLEY COAL MINE

This mine is close to Medicine Hat and is estimated to contain 77,000,000 tons of good lignite.

## UNLIMITED COAL

Within a few miles of the city limits are vast quantities of high grade lignite coal, which is being mined and distributed to the surrounding country at an exceptionally low cost to the consumer.

One of these mines hitherto known as the "Ansley Mine" has lately been purchased by an American firm and will soon be producing 1,000 tons of coal per day.

Seams of good lignite coal are also found in many places throughout the country, furnishing valuable fuel conveniently situated to the settler.

## WHOLESALE CENTRE

Situated as Medicine Hat is in the centre of a large farming and stock-raising area, the city must of necessity become the headquarters of numerous wholesale houses, several being already located here.

# STOCK RAISING

**S**INCE the first settlement of the Great West country stock raising has always been an important industry in Southern Alberta. The wide expanse of grassy plains, broken only by streams of pure water from the hills, made it a veritable paradise for the big rancher and his fearless cowboy riders.

The last decade has seen large areas of this range land thrown open to the homesteader, and the grain grower now occupies much of the land on which roamed the big herds of horses and cattle. The grain grower is giving attention to stock-raising and it will always continue to be a very important, if not the most important, industry in a country so well adapted for it.

## A GREAT MILLING CENTRE

On the opposite page is a striking example of what natural gas means to Medicine Hat. Those three huge plants mill almost one-seventh of Alberta's great crop of wheat, making this city the West's greatest milling centre.

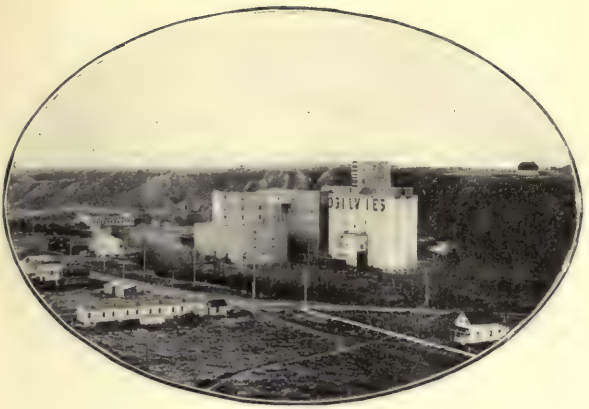
Below is a picture of the Alberta Linseed Oil Mills, the product of which has found a market as far away as Australia.

Following is the analysis of Medicine Hat's natural gas: Methane, 99.49 per cent.; hydrogen, .51 per cent.; a trace of oxygen and absolutely no moisture. Medicine Hat gas never freezes, on account of its freedom from moisture. It contains 1,140 B.T.U.'s per cubic foot—meaning that its heating power is over 50 per cent. greater than that of artificial gas.

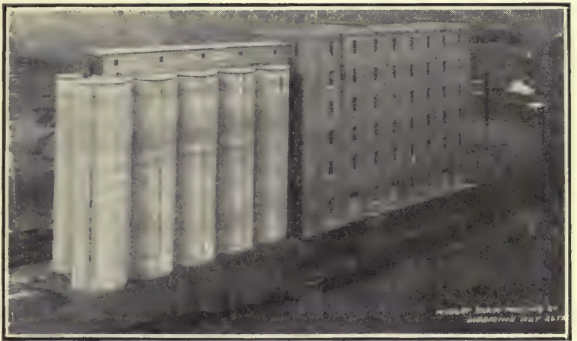


THE ALBERTA LINSEED OIL MILLS

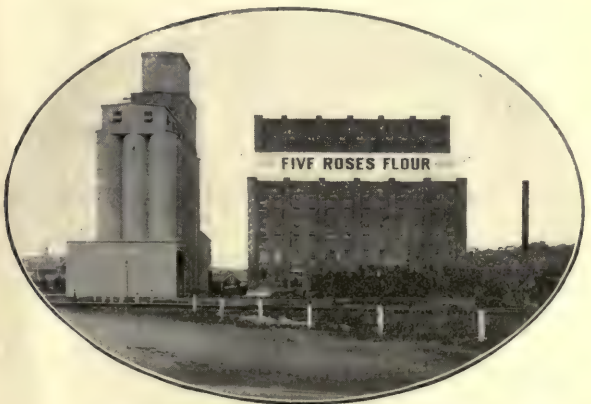
Natural gas generates the steam for cooking the linseed meal and heating the plant. Natural gas runs three engines, generating about 130 horse power.



OGILVIE FLOUR MILLS



HEDLEY SHAW FLOUR MILLS



LAKE OF THE WOODS FLOUR MILLS



## A GOOD PLACE TO LIVE IN

When all is said, no greater praise can be given to any place than to state that it is a city of homes, and such is Medicine Hat. Moreover, Nature has dealt generously with her. The stream scenes here shown are an invitation to picnic, and equally pleasing are the pictures of roadway, garden and park. The big pumpkin and cabbage rather monopolize attention in the photograph of a display at the Horticultural Society's exhibition but they do not alter the fact that vegetables, flowers and fruit of the highest quality grow abundantly in this city.

At the bottom of the group of scenes is a photograph of part of the plant of the Rosery Flower Company—three and one-half acres under glass—made possible by the cheapness of the only kind of fuel used in Medicine Hat.

In many homes in Medicine Hat, for several months of the year, the monthly bill for cooking, lighting and heating is one dollar. Natural gas heats every building in the city.



# GREAT IRRIGATION SYSTEM

**T**HE Canada Land and Irrigation Company, one of the largest irrigation companies on the American continent, has its headquarters at Medicine Hat, and its project containing 530,000 acres of dry and irrigable lands lies west of the city. Over 200,000 acres of this tract will be irrigated by an extensive system of irrigation works now being completed by this company.

With sufficient moisture by rains or by irrigation, an excellent loam soil, abundance of sunshine, and climatic conditions in the growing season equal to those of Southern Montana, no better agricultural possibilities can be found in Canada. This has been



## HARVESTING

Binders at work in a great field of wheat near Medicine Hat.

demonstrated by the large yield of grain per acre which has been grown in the project, and profitable results under irrigation in growing alfalfa, corn, sugar beets, and various root crops.

Medicine Hat is so situated as to be the logical commercial headquarters for this large area of farming lands.

## GAS WELLS ON FARMS

In very recent years some of the ranchers and farmers who own bottom lands on the Saskatchewan River have developed gas wells on their property and are using the gas not only to light and heat their buildings but to develop power to pump water with for irrigation purposes. This idea is capable of considerable extension and the almost nominal cost of this valuable fuel will probably lead to the irrigation of extensive tracts of land by this means that are not located so that a gravity system could be applied,



At top of this page is the plant of the Medicine Hat Pump and Brass Manufacturing Co. The motive power, about 200 h. p., is supplied by natural gas, which also melts the brass in half the time—and with less loss—than any other heat would do. Natural gas also starts the cupolas and heats the plant.

Next are the Preston Planing Mills; natural gas generates the steam in a 75 h. p. boiler which runs the machinery and heats the plant.

Last in above group is the pottery of the Medalta Stoneware Limited; natural gas burns the kilns, dries the pottery and heats the plant.

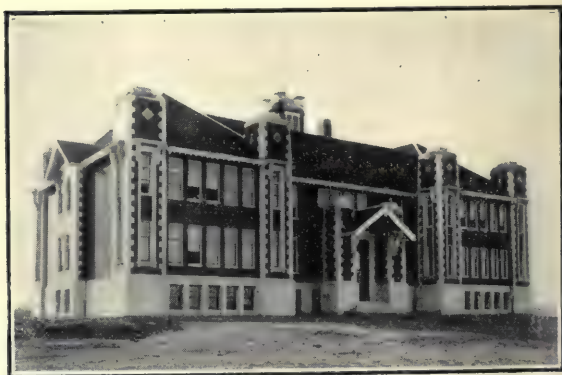
Below is the plant of the Canadian Western Foundry and Supply Co. Natural gas heats the core oven, starts the cupolas and heats the plant; it also runs three 25 h. p. gas engines and generates steam for a 1,200-lb. steam hammer and for drilling purposes.



# MEDICINE HAT'S SCHOOL SYSTEM

**T**HE most remarkable feature of Medicine Hat's development from town to city proportions is the way in which good and sufficient organization in every department of community life has kept pace with the rapid growth. The evidence of this fact is most impressive when reference is made to the local educational system. In 1911 the total enrolment of pupils numbered 1205; in 1917, 2741; this is an increase of over 100 per cent. in six years. During the same period the number of High School pupils increased from 76 to 361. These years saw the formation of an educational system making ample provision for all that is modern in the way of the education of children—for special form of Primary education, the establishment of an Introductory or Kindergarten grade; for Elementary and Advanced Manual Training; for Domestic Science; for Drawing and Art Work; for Music; for Medical Inspection and Physical Training; for Elementary and Advanced Evening Class Extension Work. Even in 1914 the residents of Medicine Hat had good reason to be proud of an educational system that possessed all the features of an up-to-date, efficient, city school system. Today it is in a class by itself in the advantages which it offers along the line of Primary education and training given in Art study, and is well abreast of the times in all advances made in ordinary work of the grades. School accommodation is provided in large, permanent school buildings having a pleasing architecture and good location, well planned and well equipped for all phases of modern education.

A well chosen staff of 65 teachers meets the educational requirements of a progressive management. Those in charge of the more important departments of school work, as in the Primary, Public



CONNAUGHT PUBLIC SCHOOL

The several recently erected school buildings of Medicine Hat are handsome structures, embodying the best features in the construction of educational institutions.



School Leaving and High School classes, are exceptionally well qualified teachers, capable of giving superior service in the class room. The administration of school affairs is thoroughly systematized. Efficiency has been proved in the capable manner in which a rapidly growing school population has been received, accommodated, well graded and in all respects well provided for.

The lively interest which the citizens of Medicine Hat take in school matters is made strikingly manifest in the willingness of many of the most capable, and consequently busiest of their number, to serve in the interests of education as members of the Board of Public School Trustees.



ST. THERESA'S ACADEMY

A building which is at once substantial, of pleasing appearance and splendidly appointed.

## MEDICINE HAT GENERAL HOSPITAL

This is an institution of which many cities much larger in population might well be proud. It serves a large area of country as well as the city, and is noted for its high standard of efficiency in every department.

Started in a very modest way by the efforts of the late C.P.R. Superintendent Niblock nearly thirty years ago, it has grown till now it has, coupled with the maternity home, one hundred and twenty-five beds, and a staff of forty-five nurses and other employees, but is still hardly of sufficient capacity to cater to all the needs of the district; and the board of directors are devoting a lot of time and study to the problem of enlargement. At the maternity home there were 308 births in the year 1917 while the hospital days averaged around 2,500 per month in the General hospital. There is also a pupil nurses training school in connection with the hospital and the services of Medicine Hat's trained nurses are everywhere greatly appreciated.

# THE CHURCHES

We are proud of the commercial and educational institutions of our city, and the religious needs of the community have not been neglected. All Christian denominations are well represented and the city possesses several imposing church edifices. Among the denominations are Anglican, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, Methodist, Baptist, Christian Science and Lutheran.

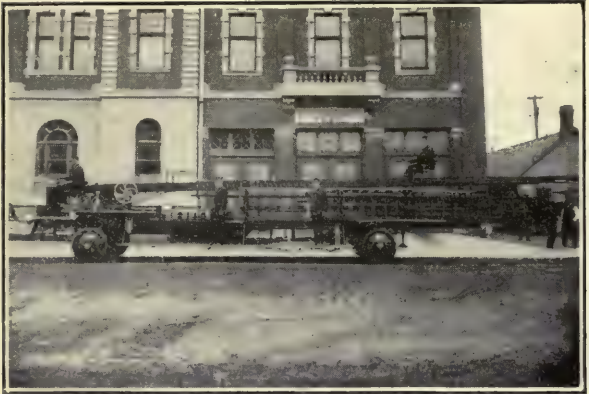
# WATER SUPPLY

**O**F great importance for the welfare of a community is a pure and adequate supply of water. This Medicine Hat can lay claim to. The water is taken from the Saskatchewan river at a point three miles above the city by a plant having a capacity of eight million gallons in twenty-four hours. Its pumping units are two-thirds electrical and one-third steam turbine driven, thereby being prepared to meet eventualities. Its filtration system is of the rapid sand or mechanical gravity type and has a capacity of six million gallons per twenty-four hours at natural rating. The suspended matter carried by the river water is taken care of by the addition of sulphate of alum to the raw water before it enters the sedimentation basin, where a coagulum is precipitated, carrying with it the suspended matter. Leaving these basins the water is passed through the filters to the clearwell, where it is chlorinated and is then ready to be taken by the high lift pumps to the two million gallon reservoir situated on one of the highest points of land near the city and giving a pressure of one hundred and twenty pounds per square inch on the high pressure main.



TABOR CANDY CO. FACTORY

Natural gas runs a 50 h. p. steam boiler which supplies all the steam required for cooking and heating, except for hard candy which is cooked over two open natural gas fires. Natural gas also runs a 15 h. p. gas engine which supplies all the power; and the lighting system is chiefly natural gas.



CENTRAL FIRE HALL

Medicine Hat has one of the most modern and best equipped fire departments in Canada.

## OPPORTUNITIES IN FARMING

The Medicine Hat district includes some of the best farm land on the continent. Good farming brings a paying crop in every year, and in the best years the yield of wheat is as high as 60 bushels per acre, oats 120 bushels, and other grains in proportion. The district is still a great cattle country but an immense amount of new land has recently been brought under cultivation. Farm land values are increasing, but excellent land can be bought at comparatively very low prices and on reasonable terms. If you plan on going farming, you are interested.

## ABOUT THE WEATHER

For many years Medicine Hat has been unjustly known as "the place where the weather comes from." The fact is that this city enjoys better weather than almost any other place in Canada's great Western prairies. The dryness of the air makes the coldest winter day less unpleasant than much of the winter weather endured in districts about the great lakes, and also makes summer much more pleasant than in districts where the humidity is high. Medicine Hat seldom has a summer night which is not pleasantly cool for sleeping. Following are the official government figures of Medicine Hat's average temperature, by months, for the period 1914 to 1917, both inclusive:

Jan... 10	Feb.... 15	Mar... 30	Apr... 47
May.. 55.5	June.. 61.5	July... 69.5	Aug... 67
Sept.. 56	Oct.... 45.5	Nov... 37	Dec... 15.5



### AT THE SUMMER EXHIBITION

A strip of track and crowd at Medicine Hat's Exhibition grounds, which are such as would be a credit to much larger cities.

## BANKS AND BANK CLEARINGS

Branches of the following leading banks of Canada are established in Medicine Hat: Canadian Bank of Commerce, Dominion Bank, Merchants Bank of Canada, Bank of Montreal, Royal Bank of Canada and Union Bank of Canada.

The bank clearings for the past three years were as follows:

1915.....	\$13,503,194
1916.....	21,617,502
1917.....	29,716,159



### MARKET DAY

Farmers from many miles around drive to this market. In the background is St. Barnabas Church.

# FACTS ABOUT MEDICINE HAT



- Its factories all use natural gas.
- Its factory sites are on trackage.
- It has six miles of industrial railway spurs.
- It has a never failing and pure water supply.
- Its public utilities are all municipally owned.
- It has many openings for factories and industries.
- It sells natural gas for manufacturing at 5c per M.
- It is the greatest milling centre in Western Canada.
- It sells natural gas for domestic use at 20c net per M.
- Its factories manufacture more than 60 kinds of articles.
- It has a trade territory of over 1,500,000 people for a market.
- It has one of the best public markets in Western Canada.
- It can offer manufacturers excellent sites at reasonable cost.
- It has a high-speed, motor-driven, modern fire department.
- It has a supply of natural gas estimated to outlast this century.
- It has a monthly payroll for over 1,500 employes of about \$150,000.
- It has abundance of electrical energy, generated from its own natural gas.
- It has a central location in Western Canada—midway between Winnipeg and Vancouver.
- It has a developed coal mine within a few miles of city limits with 77,000,000 tons of good lignite.

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Further particulars concerning Medicine H  
and District will be gladly furnished by  
Secretary of the Board of Trade.

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