

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa,..... FEB 26 1906

DEAR SIR,

I wish to obtain information respecting the derivation of the place-names of Canada—of the names of the villages, towns, cities and of the natural features, such as rivers, lakes, capes, bays, mountains, etc.—and shall be much obliged if you will give me any information that you may possess or can procure, respecting the below-mentioned name and also respecting the names of any other features in the vicinity of your residence concerning which you have knowledge.

In many localities, the older generation is passing, or has passed away, and unless steps are taken to collect this information, it will, in many instances, be too late. In most communities there are persons who take an interest in things of this nature or who have been connected with the early settlement of the locality. If there are any such in your neighbourhood, will you kindly submit this to them.

Below I have indicated the lines along which I desire information and also the commoner derivatives of place-names in Canada :—

(1.) Whether named after a village, town or city, or natural feature in any other province or country ; if so, the name of province or country in which the original locality is situated.

(2.) Whether named after a person ; if so, the person's name, occupation, spelling of name as rendered by the person and any details of interest respecting him (or her) such as (a) Whether alive or, if dead, approximate year of death ; (b) Whether at any time a resident of the locality and, if so, whether still living there.

(3.) Whether named after a natural feature ; if so, any details respecting the origin of the name as applied to the feature and the geographical position of the latter.

(4.) Whether the town, village or city ever had any other name or names ; if so, at what dates, approximately, and the origin of these obsolete names.

Any information bearing on the above will be deemed a courtesy.

Yours truly,

JAMES WHITE,
Geographer.

Kindly write your reply on the attached sheet.

To ensure free transmission of your reply I enclose herewith an addressed envelope which will come free of postage.

"Oak Lake"

Man.

Oak Lake formerly - "Flat Creek" -

It was known as Flat Creek in fall of 1881 when the
A.R.R. terminus was here the fall of that year and so
called because of the creek of that name which the
railway had just crossed - creek is about 2 miles east of ^{Village}

Oak Lake is derived from the lake of that name which
is some 6 ^{to 8} miles SW of the town - The Lake was also
known as "Lac de Chené" - and derives its name
from the Oak which grows on the Eastern shore
of the lake on what is known as the island -
This oak is good oak equal to any in Manitoba and
is not the common scrub oak -

"Routledge" - The next flag station West was
so named after a Mr Routledge ^{Lake} of Virchen one
of the partners in Bowie & Routledge - ^{the} Mr
Routledge contested the constituency of Virchen
County of Terminus in the 80 and lived at
Virchen for some years - He died in the
Winnipeg general hospital some 12 years ago