

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

AUG 21 1905

Ottawa,.....

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 that 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.

" Hazelwood "
Bekevar . ~~Assa~~
Sask

Hazelwood, N.W.T.

The name Hazelwood was given, by that slow appreciator of ambiguity, a Scotsman, then Postmaster in the district. The name, as Euclid might describe, is a self evident proposition. It is so called after the Hazel bushes, that abound in the bluffs in the vicinity, which supply nuts, apparently as yet, more treasured by the thrifty little chipmunks than by that interloper, the Settler. The locality consists of an undulating tract of prairie lying between the Big and Little Moose Mountains, which famous fertile stretch of country has for years past been a Ranchers Paradise. Tempora mutantur, et nos in illis - The land recently has been much broken up, where its nature will permit, and proving excellent agricultural soil, but the greater portion must always, more or less, remain a pasturing centre, being too intersected with sloughs and bluffs to advantageously place under cultivation.

To the North and North East is the Hungarian settlement with its Post Office called "BEKEVAR" signifying "Peaceable" - a happy description of this busy friendly little Colony.

Directly to the South and South East is the Timber Reserve, the happy hunting ground of Log and dry wood seekers.