Lyleton

In 1902, when the railway branch finally arrived near the Lyleton Post Office, close to the US border south of Melita, another new town was created. In fact that was what they called it at first, "The New Town". The streets were placed on what had been a field of grain just two months before. Andrew Lyle's farm home was the first post office; because of this, the district had been known as Lyleton for some time. Soon the town took that name as well.

A comfortable station was provided by the Canadian Pacific Railroad

Before long the town was booming with all the stores and services the region needed.

The foundation of the new Presbyterian Church, which still existed in 2017, was laid and the main street was lined with businesses.

Little towns like Lyleton owed their existence to the homesteads around them and a shopping trip to town was something the whole family would appreciate.

Fire was the enemy of these new towns, and Lyleton had its share. On August 19, 1904, the entire business section portion of Lyleton was wiped out by fire, caused by lightning.

And like other towns before – they set out to rebuild.

The Lyleton Home Bank

A visitor to Lyleton today might find it hard to believe that it once had a thriving bank and a busy hotel.

Fire was to strike Lyleton again in 1910 and again large portion of the business section was destroyed. The fire fighting equipment of the day could do very little to check its progress.

The improvement in transportation and communication brought large towns of Melita and Brandon closer. There was already less of a need for some businesses. The store, school, church, elevators, post office, garages and lumber yard continued to serve the village for some time. Much of the community life continued to revolve around the church, school, hall and rink.
.