

killed out—exterminated. He had heard that the killing of beaver is prohibited, but it does not seem to affect business out there at all.

Asked as to the fish of Hudson bay and James bay, Archdeacon McKay replied that fish are not numerous on the coast of James bay. They had whitefish, pike or jackfish and perch. There are no salmon in that part. There are salmon in Hudson bay. He had been north of Big Whale river. He did not know that there were salmon there, but there were salmon in a river near Cape Jones. He had never seen any mackerel, herring or cod. He did not know if there are cod go into Hudson bay. He had never seen nor heard of any, nothing but whale and walruses. He was up in Hudson bay in August travelling in a canoe and saw some loose floating ice there.

CLIMATE.

It is a peculiarity of that part of the country around Lac La Ronge that the frosts are very late. On a small island in the lake Archdeacon McKay has seen potatoes in the beginning of October with the vines untouched by frost at that late season. That was of course on account of the large body of water that equalized the temperature. On the mainland that probably would not be the case, but two years ago he was at La La Ronge when Mr. Chisholm, the Indian inspector, came out to make treaty payments towards the end of August, probably August 20, and the potato vines were not touched at all either on the mainland or on the islands, and the inspector told Archdeacon McKay that they had been a good deal touched in Prince Albert before he left.

The snowfall is not very heavy. It is generally a little heavier than in the Prince Albert section of the country, but not always so. Three feet on the level would be considered deep snow.

As a rule the first frosts come some time in September. Last summer the potatoes were touched with frost about September 15, but not seriously. In the spring one can put in grain from May 5 as a rule. The witness used to sow wheat May 5 generally, and plant potatoes from May 20 on.

The lowest temperature in winter, judging from his own sensations, was about the same as Prince Albert. In the summer time it is quite as hot as at Prince Albert. It is further north and the days are longer.

The weather at Lac La Ronge is moderately dry. Generally there is sufficient rainfall for the crops. Last summer there was quite a long spell of dry weather which affected the wild fruits. It was an exceptional spell of dry weather, but generally there is a good rainfall. The rainy season would be quite equal to Manitoba's. Witness did not know that it was greater. There is rain almost at any time during the summer. There are frequent thunder storms and occasionally hail storms, but not more frequently than they have in the prairie country.

In reply to a question by the Honourable Mr. Ferguson, Archdeacon McKay said he thought the summer heat at Moose Factory and Lac La Ronge would be very much the same. He did not remember anything that would lead him to think there would be much difference. The winter is decidedly more severe on the bay. In the summer the temperature changes more rapidly in the bay than in the interior. He had often known the heat to be great in the forenoon, and in the afternoon perhaps the wind would change and the tide coming in there would be quite a chilly afternoon. There were very sudden changes of weather on the bay. The ice was not in sight all summer at Moose Factory. They lost sight of the ice as soon as the ice went out of the river in May, and there would be no further ice in the bay until the river set fast again the following November.

SETTLEMENTS.

The only whites in the country he had described north of the Saskatchewan were the Hudson bay officials and traders. There is no agricultural settlement at Lac La