

inland an area of four acres of spruce muskeg has been cleared up and drained at a cost of \$250 per acre. The soil is a deep, black, vegetable loam, on muck. What is cleared had been permanently frozen to within eight or ten inches of the surface. This land is still too cold for the growing of vegetables but raises excellent crops of hay. In this district there are many thousands of acres of such muskeg which could be brought under cultivation, and possibly if larger areas were exposed to the sun and wind the ground would obtain a greater degree of warmth thus enabling grains and vegetables to be grown with equal success to that attained on those exposed garden areas facing the lake.

Foxes and other wild animals prey heavily upon the ranks of the poultry. A novel idea for the protection of the latter was adopted by keeping a pet bear within their yard enclosure. Knowing the Indians' tendency to hang about a church if there was any work in sight, I questioned the good missionary on this subject and found him keenly alive to their tricks. In answer to a question of mine he replied, "I hold church services on Sundays only and tell them to get out and rustle during the rest of the week the same way I have to do myself." During that night a violent thunder-storm raged and my Indians, together with some natives of this lake, spent the time in another "little game", in which one unfortunate player parted company with a rifle I had seen him purchasing that afternoon at the Hudson's Bay stores.

Lac la Ronge to The Pas.

The next morning we bid an early farewell to this interesting settlement and headed north-easterly across Lac la Ronge and by a chain of small lakes and four portages to the Churchill river, which we again entered the following forenoon, a short distance above Stanley. By noon we had camp made at this historic place. Here we spent the balance of the day. This was the destination of my Ile a la Crosse Indians and they appeared quite willing to return without delay, having now been absent twelve days, which is a long time for an Indian to be away from home. Tom Bear, native trader in charge of the Hudson's Bay post on the south side of the river, promptly supplied me with a fresh relay to go as far as Pelican Narrows. In place of our usual large canoe nothing was available but a couple of small sixteen foot ones. In one of them I paddled with one Indian, while Adams and the other Indian took the second.

On the north bank of the Churchill is here found a very historic and picturesque church of England edifice which was built some sixty-five years ago by a devoted English missionary at his own expense. The interior woodwork and fittings were all imported from England, as well as the windows, every pane of which is stained glass. This material was shipped to York Factory and brought up by canoe from there. The exterior woodwork and the shingles were whip-sawn by the Indians from logs cut in the vicinity. The church stands on a rocky point projecting into the river. In the background the high rocky banks rise to a height of several hundred feet and are capped by a 35-foot tower built by the fire rangers as a lookout station. Rounding the bend in the river, this scene had suddenly and unexpectedly burst into my vision, and I thought it was the most striking sight of my summer's travels.

Revillon's post is here in charge of G. A. Moberly, who was born at Fort Vermilion where his father had charge of the Hudson's Bay post. Thus born a trader, he was brought up a trader and after serving many years with his father's company transferred allegiance to their great rivals and settled here with his wife. The church of England mission is in charge of Rev. C. Morris. His wife conducts classes of instructions for the Indian children in their own tongue. Our short stay at this place was made pleasant by the hospitable people.

A number of Indians were camped along the water's edge; the men spending the afternoon in lying listlessly on the grassy banks, smoking and watching us, or