

and for raising flocks of tame cattle...At Churchill horses and cows have been kept in winter, though greatly exposed to the frost and cold,...at Moose Factory sown wheat has stood the winter frosts and grown very well the summer following,...black cherries also planted here have grown and borne fruit, as would other trees if propagated;...the climate is not worse than that of Sweden, Denmark, Russia, Poland and North Germany."

Then take the evidence of Mr. R. F. Stupart, now Sir Frederick Stupart, director of the Meteorological Service, before the Senate committee of 1907:

As to the isothermal lines of that part of the country lying south and west of Split lake on the route of the proposed railway between the head of The Pas and Churchill, Mr. Stupart explained that in the month of June the district in question is between the isothermal line of 50 and 55. The corresponding isothermal district in Europe would be the extreme north of Scotland in June. In July that district is between the isothermal lines 55 and 60, and that would correspond with Scotland and a portion of Scandinavia. In the month of August the district in question is about 55, and there you have Scotland again. The country had a reasonably fair climate for the three summer months, June, July, and August.

I could quote more to the same effect. It is the long day of sunlight that enables things to grow so well in that territory, in fact the temperature rises until about six o'clock in the evening of each day. Then as to the soil. The hon. member for St. Lawrence-St. George talked about the moss in that country. The engineer whose statements he was quoting was not talking about moss; he was talking about the bog covering swamp where it went to any depth. But in the northern country where there is rock there always will be moss. Nevertheless there is plenty of good land in that country as it shown by the evidence given before the Senate committee in 1924. Let me point out the evidence of Mr. Stefansson to be found at page 34 of that report:

I think Churchill would be the best place to establish a musk-ox ranch because we know that it is good grass country.

He went on to explain that on the prairie there was plenty of grass, and that what is known as the barren lands was actually prairie. On those barren lands there are no trees but there is plenty of grass. At page 50 of the same report we find the evidence of Mr. J. B. Tyrrell who stated:

I think a reindeer ranch proposition on the west coast would be quite feasible. I saw great stretches of grass land, and also I saw vast herds of caribou which live on grass exclusively. They seemed to get abundance of feed.

What is the use of the hon. members accepting the biased reports of men that have travelled only in a very restricted area of that country and who say that the barren lands are incapable of producing, in the face of the statements of men like Stefansson and Tyrrell

who say that those districts are capable of producing live stock, and in particular reindeer and musk ox. We who have been in the region referred to, and are familiar with its capabilities, know that in the matter of production it has great potentialities. At one time in our history the cry was raised that very little could be grown away from the main line of the Canadian Pacific railway in the west. Nevertheless that company has built many branch lines from its main line in Saskatchewan and in that territory to-day there is a production of no less than 150,000,000 bushels of wheat. Those identified with the early history of the Canadian Pacific railway should have known better than to entertain any doubt of the possibilities of the west in the matter of production. Similar doubts were expressed in the past with regard to the possibilities of Manitoba, or at least the northern part of the province. It was said that grain could not be grown there. Yet grain is being grown there to-day, and all the time the area of production is extending farther and farther north. There is no question in my mind but that people who have posed as authorities have been utterly wrong in their statements about the northern country. It is not one bog or swamp, nor is it a useless and barren country. It is a region capable of great development and that development will take place before many years have passed. We of the west who know that country and realize its possibilities have great faith in it. We come to hon. members with assurance and ask them to give us something that has been promised for generations and generations. We say to them that if they wish the destiny of western Canada to be realized they will help us to roll the map northward because that is where the future development of western Canada lies.

Mr. BIRD: It had not been my intention to speak at all until I listened to the hon. member for St. Lawrence-St. George (Mr. Cahan). I notice, by the way, that that hon. gentleman is in the habit of delivering himself and getting out of the chamber as quickly as possible; he has everything to teach and nothing to learn evidently. I listened very carefully to the hon. member's speech throughout, and I must say that it was a very clever piece of special pleading. His procedure amounted to this: All he did was to magnify the McLachlan report and belittle the Senate report. It is a very easy form of arguing when you can take two documents and carefully select all that is palatable in the one and all that is unpalatable in the other. I do not mind the hon. gentleman belittling the Senate on ordinary occasions it