

APPENDIX No. 4

will keep the land in good condition. As long as there is no leaching your land is practically like the land in Egypt. There is an idea prevalent that the water of Egypt going on the land contains a whole lot of nutritious elements, and therefore it is beneficial to have it passing over the land. It is not so. It is like any other water going over the land. The land that is only slightly irrigated will never become poor. The land has never failed in California, and there is no talk about fertilizers. I told Mr. Pearce, 'If you begin to irrigate in the fields at Bow, as foolish persons have done in British Columbia—'

By Mr. Ross (Yale-Cariboo):

Q. I beg your pardon.

A. I beg to correct that statement: As I have seen them do in British Columbia.

SALT STREAMS, OUTLETS OF SOME LAKES.

By Mr. McIntyre (Strathcona):

Q. Is it not a common thing to find the outlet of the lake salty?

A. Quill lake and Manitou lake are the only two lakes that I know of that have salt water streams flowing from them.

By Mr. Derbyshire:

Q. What do you drink up there with that salty water?

A. Real lime juice.

By Mr. Jackson (Selkirk):

Q. I understood you to say that Quill lake and another lake you mentioned were the only salt lakes?

A. There are several big lakes of that kind.

Q. All salty?

A. All salty.

By Mr. McCraney:

Q. About range 24 there is a salt lake?

A. You mean this one? (indicating on the map). Yes, that is a salt lake, too.

By Mr. Lake:

Q. It is alkaline, is it not?

A. We call them salt lakes, but the rock that they are based upon contains a large quantity of magnesia—really Epsom salts. Most of them are just salt and contain a very great solution of Epsom salts, and you know the results. I may say this, and gentlemen who have travelled in the West know it: In the spring, when the rains are taking place, the waters are so diluted that you could drink them without injury; but in August and September, when the rains have ceased and you try the waters in the same lakes, you find that they are not so good. Now, a gentleman asked me how we drink that water. We drink it with great quantities of lime juice, which renders it quite palatable.

By Mr. Derbyshire:

Q. Not with a little good Scotch?—A. No. The lime juice put into the water makes it very good. I drank it all last summer with lime juice and a little sugar. We use that in any kind of water.

PIONEER SETTLEMENT,—THE FIRST HOUSE,—A NOVEL FUEL.

Now, gentlemen, I want to proceed a little further. This is Eagle creek, and this is Battle river. We crossed through what is called the Bare Hills. There is no bush there and no woods. We camped on this spot, and the engineers told us there