

and people wanted their overcoats at once. Then the warm weather returned. It did not freeze, but it was very cold. It was very pleasant in the summer. Sometimes there are very heavy rainfalls, but witness was fortunate in having dry summers. He had a couple of showers. However, it is not a very dry climate.

MEANS OF COMMUNICATION.

Asked by the Honourable Mr. Bernier as to whether there would be any possibility of having harbours and ports on the southwest side of Hudson bay and James bay, Mr. Dowling explained that there are natural harbours on the east side, but on the west side it would be difficult to have harbours. It is very shallow all the way through, from the southern end of Hannah bay to Churchill. There is a good harbour at Churchill. At Churchill you get to the rock. South of that, when the tide rises five or six feet the shore line changes six miles.

The salt water permeates the Hudson bay from the ocean right up to the mouth of the Moose river. Witness thought the reason of that was on account of the tides. The regular shape of the opening permitted it.

The harbour at Churchill is a land-locked harbour with rocky points on both sides, not a very wide entrance. The only complaint about it is that the entrance is too apt to be crowded with ice in the spring. The ice is driven in with the tide in the spring.