

Another class of soils in British Columbia are the upper "bench" soils. Those analysed have been of a light and sandy character, considerably inferior to the soil just referred to as regards plant food, but, nevertheless, owing to the extremely favourably climatic conditions that prevail, have proved themselves to be capable of producing good and profitable yields.

British Columbia also possesses in many of her valleys areas of mucky soils, essentially rich in organic matter and nitrogen. These with proper treatment are exceedingly productive and eventually will prove of great value for the growing of most of our farm crops.

Concerning the soils of the North-West Territories, I can state that most of those samples examined have been found to contain large amounts of plant food. Even soils from the areas affected by the deleterious presence of alkali for the most part contain all the necessary elements for productiveness, and only await the proper treatment of drainage and the application of certain chemicals to make them fertile in a high degree.

The prairie soil of Manitoba constitutes a real mine of plant food. A sample examined from the Red River valley, a black loam more than two feet in depth, was of a very high order, possessing remarkable amounts of all those materials which crops require, and ranking as pre-eminent from both a chemical and mechanical standpoint. From the analysis, I calculated that an area of one acre to the depth of one foot, contained, approximately: Nitrogen, 33,145 lbs; Potash, 33,950 lbs; Phosphoric acid, 9,450 lbs. When we compare these amounts with those present in average fertile soils, viz: Nitrogen, 3,500 lbs; Potash, 7,000 lbs; Phosphoric acid 6,000 lbs., the great agricultural value and possibilities of this prairie soil will be obvious.

Both the North-West Territories and Manitoba are justly noted as grain growing areas and more especially for producing large yields of wheat rich in gluten and of excellent milling qualities. The magnificent soil of these districts has been one of the chief factors in bringing about this result. Our farmers