

Q. Is there not beer manufactured in Winnipeg? A. Yes. I believe that these wild hops could be cultivated and exported east.

Q. Do they use the wild hops for making beer in Winnipeg? A. I believe they do. With regard to hops growing in a cultivated state, I believe an attempt will be made this summer by the Indian Department either to cultivate the hop on some of the reserves, or to gather the wild crop. I believe that something could be done in the way of collecting hops.

*By the Chairman :*

Q. You think it would furnish profitable employment? A. I believe it would. Young girls and boys could be employed for the purpose, and I believe they could get ready sale for the hops.

Q. Would you advise the cultivation of the hop all over the North-West? A. Yes; I believe it could be grown anywhere in that country.

Q. Do you think that the Indians of the plain would use wild rice as the Indians further east do? A. I think so, because they are fond of barley, and from the specimens of wild rice shown to the Committee yesterday, a portion of which I was allowed to taste, I think there is a great resemblance between barley and this wild rice. Consequently, as the Indians of the plain are very fond of barley, they would be likely to like the wild rice also, which is a similar grain, and in my opinion a little better than barley.

Q. Are there many streams and lakes in the North-West suitable for the cultivation of the wild rice? A. Yes. I listened very attentively to the paper read by the secretary here, before the Committee with regard to growing wild rice, and I noticed that it could only be grown in ponds or lakes in which there was a slight current—ponds or lakes with outlets. In looking for places to make the attempt to propagate this wild rice, therefore, we must necessarily select places of that description. I do not know anything of the wild rice personally; I derive my information from that paper which was read to the Committee yesterday. Suitable lakes and lakelets and ponds certainly exist in many parts of the North-West Territories. Alongside the Eagle Hill Creek there are various streams which widen into lakelets occasionally, and ponds where there is a slight current, and in such places there would be no difficulty in cultivating wild rice, provided the bottom is of the right character. The bottom, I understood from the paper, had to be muddy. I never examined the bottom of those lakes to see if they were muddy, but the slight current is there, and they are in every other way suitable for the growth of wild rice. I believe that in the country south-east of Edmonton, in the Beaver Lake district, for a considerable distance from Fort Saskatchewan coming east, you would strike a considerable territory in which you will find a large number of lakes, ponds and marshes, where there is a slight current, provided always that the muddy bottom is there. I believe in the Wascana River, the conditions necessary for the growth of the plant exist; not that it widens into marshes in the way I have described, but we have made two or three dams across the river in different places, and the water accumulates above each of the dams, while there is also the slight current necessary all the time. I know the bottom is muddy there. You have in the Wascana River water of the required depth, the muddy bottom and the slight current, so that I believe it could be tried there with success.

*By the Honorable Mr. Merner :*

Q. Does the rice grow from the seed every year? A. I have no knowledge of it myself. I get my information from the paper read before the Committee, and the first wild rice I ever saw was the sample displayed here yesterday on this table.

*By the Chairman :*

Q. That paper said that forty bushels of wild rice are sometimes gathered from an acre; a former witness, Prof. Bell, stated that nearly the same quantity of grain, forty bushels, forty-five pounds to the bushel, would represent a large amount of food, and if even a few of those lakelets or streams could produce it, there would be a large amount of food, which I think the Indians would like, or easily become accustomed to? A. Yes, I believe so. It would certainly be a great benefit to the