

ant, leguminous plants predominating. Among these *Vicia Americana* (Vetch), *Lathyrus ochroleucus* (Wild Pea) and *Hedysarum lyratum* are the most important. The first of these is what is commonly known as "pea vine" throughout the Peace River region. From Peace River Landing to Old Wives lake the plateau may be characterized as prairie, but it is broken by poplar and willow coppice and in some places by patches of forest land, but there are hardly more large trees than will be required for house-logs and fence-rails when the country is settled. To the north of the trail the timber is heavier. Hay could be made almost anywhere in ordinary seasons on the open prairie, but this year the dry weather prevented growth. Old Wives lake is about one mile long and a third of a mile wide, surrounded by a marsh where a great quantity of good hay can be made in the autumn. About two miles south of the lake there is a large spring known as Cold spring. It gushes from a small depression and forms a shallow brook seven feet wide a few yards from its source. The water is very cold, but there is no trace of mineral either in the water or on the stones and pebbles. The country between Old Wives lake and the river and westward to Burnt river was examined later in the season, and was found to be of the same general character. A small area near Burnt river is thickly strewn with boulders. The whole of this region is underlain by the silt described elsewhere.

From Old Wives lake we turned north on July 9th to Bear lake. Tralls over which wagons can be taken run directly from "The Settlement" to both ends of Bear lake. This sheet of water is larger than shown on the map, being at least eight miles in length and three or four in width in places. It is bordered by a fringe of wood on the south-east and south-west sides and towards the north by a solid forest. Near the north-east end of the lake the soil becomes somewhat lighter, but is a rich sandy loam. From this point there is a well-travelled Indian trail running north to the White-mud river, and this trail was followed. For more than a mile it runs along the shore of a muddy bay, and then a little east of north for about three miles, when Bear creek, the discharge of the lake, is crossed. For the greater part of this distance the country was covered with *brulé* (spruce and poplar) and small spots of muskeg. The creek is crossed by a good bridge. Travelling about three miles further in the same direction, the creek is again touched, where it turns more to the east. It is from ten to fifteen feet wide and three deep, with a sluggish current. For the next six miles to our camp (July 10-11) the country was slightly rolling, with aspen and willow on the higher land and spruce and some tamarack and balsam-poplar on the low ground. There were a few