

1 GEORGE V., A. 1911

Acres.

Let us suppose that one-third of the land in the eastern provinces is arable, by which is meant of such a degree of fertility as to admit of cultivation or pasture with profit, that gives us.	134,179,000
A larger proportion of rich prairie lands in the west will be suitable for farming; deducting one-half for poor, rocky or swampy ground, which is probably a very liberal estimate, there remains.	178,501,000
In British Columbia, the districts of high altitude occupy so large a proportion of the country that the area cultivable will be small. It would, however, probably be safe to estimate this at one-tenth of the whole, giving.	24,000,000
In all, as probably useful for agricultural purposes..	336,680,000
An area, the magnitude of which it is difficult to conceive of.	

By Mr. Chisholm (Huron):

Q. In regard to Fort Vermilion, what is the altitude? Was the farm where the experiments were made in the valley of the river or up on high land?

A. The river is not very deep and the valley is quite shallow. The farm is located a couple of miles from the river.

Q. What would be the altitude?

A. It is 950 feet.

Q. The country there, no doubt, suffers from summer frosts?

A. Yes; but the altitude is not anything like as great as it is at Indian Head, which is 1,924 feet.

By Mr. Campbell:

Q. In looking at these samples of wheat from Indian Head and Vermilion, I see that in the former case the Red Fife wheat is of a much redder colour than the Marquis wheat and in the latter case vice versa, the Red Fife is whiter in colour. Have you any reason to offer for that?

A. I mentioned that, at Vermilion, the Red Fife wheat did not have time to mature before the frost started, and the skin is roughened and somewhat bleached and immature. It weighs 62 lbs. as against 65 lbs. of the other variety.

Q. Is it your experience that frost whitens the grain?

A. It is said to do so sometimes.

Q. Up in our country it blackens the wheat.

Mr. ROBB.—Are you sure that the grain sown was Red Fife?

Q. It looks like White Fife to me?

A. The only wheat sent up there was Red Fife. Before that we were chiefly growing Ladoga from samples sent out years ago, for the reason that it was a week earlier.

Mr. ROBB.—That sample looks more like White Fife than Red Fife.

A. There is no doubt that it is Red Fife, but it is not fully matured and it is weathered, perhaps more by exposure than by frost. There were no samples, either of Red Fife or Marquis, up there until we sent them. Our representative there has had no other seed from which he could grow these varieties. Besides, the samples have been examined by our experts at the farm and pronounced by them genuine.

By Mr. Sealey:

Q. I notice that out at the Central Experimental Farm you clip the feeding cattle. What is the advantage of doing that?