

*By the Honorable Mr. Ogilvie :*

Q. Is not that the strongest possible evidence that you can cultivate buckwheat there to advantage? A. It would seem so.

*By the Honorable Mr. McInnes :*

Q. You have never seen it tried? A. No.

*By the Honorable Mr. Sutherland :*

Q. But you have seen the wild buckwheat grown in the fields? A. Yes. I had a farm out at Battleford which I tilled for two or three years, and the wild buckwheat became a pest on it. There was more buckwheat in it than oats although I cultivated it with oats. Horses seem to be very fond of it.

*By the Chairman :*

Q. You are acquainted with some of the vetches of that country. Is not the wild pea variety sometimes used by the Indians in their soup when they have no other food? A. I am not aware of it, but I daresay it can be used. I forgot to mention that wild peas are growing in most parts of the territories in abundance.

*By the Honorable Mr. Girard :*

Q. And they are appreciated by the cattle also? A. Very much so.

*The Chairman.*—We found in Manitoba long ago that the native horses would fatten as fast on wild vetch as on timothy?

Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Yes, but it has a peculiar flavor. It sometimes gets into a field of wheat and it destroys the flour for bread. The bread made from it has a very peculiar disagreeable flavor.

*By the Chairman :*

Q. When you mentioned fish, the fish that are found in that country, you also mentioned the varieties which you thought it would be well to re-stock with. Now as to the eleventh question. At the time of the transfer of that country to Canada, what was the food of the Indians, and what were the rations allowed by the Hudson Bay Company and other traders to their employés in the various districts with which you are familiar? Were you up in that country at the time? A. No. At the time of the transfer, in 1870, I was not in that country.

*By the Honorable Mr. Girard :*

Q. At the time you were there, what was the usual food used by the Indians—the first time you were in the country? A. I believe up to 1876 buffalo meat was the exclusive food of the Indians. Then the buffalos began to disappear in the summer of 1877. Of course they began to disappear before that, but not to any appreciable extent. It was in 1877 that we perceived the fact that they were gone. Up to that time the herds in the country were sufficient to supply the Indians with food.

Q. Is there not an occasional buffalo killed now in the North-West? A. I have seen it stated in the papers, but I believe the last buffalo killed south of the Saskatchewan, and north of the Red Deer River, was one killed in 1880, when the Marquis of Lorne went down there, by himself or by his party. I think that was the last buffalo killed in that district.

*By the Honorable Mr. Kaulbach :*

Q. I saw three old stags that had been recently killed at Medicine Hat? A. Yes, but that is not included in the district I mentioned.

*By the Chairman :*

Q. What is the food supply allowed by the Hudson Bay posts on the Saskatchewan to the half-breeds, Indians and others in their service? A. I do not believe that I could give any information on the subject.

Q. The twelfth question I think you have answered in one of your former answers. Would you like to add anything to it? A. I do not know of anything I could add.

Q. Then the memorandum at the end of the list :

MEMO.—Although the collecting of information upon the following points is not wholly within the instructions of the Committee, your opinion may be asked as to :

“(a.) The varieties of indigenous and other trees best adapted for treeless districts;