

CONDITIONS IN THE CLAY BELT

ship could be drained, but even then could not be called good agricultural land except less than ten per cent of the total area which is slightly higher than the surrounding land.

About fifty per cent of the township is covered with a heavy growth of spruce with some balsam and a small amount of poplar and white birch. The spruce comprises ninety per cent of the whole amount, and is of good quality. The remaining half of the township is sparsely covered with small spruce and tamarack.

P. 85, 1905. (Kerrs township). Generally speaking the soil of this township is a fertile clay or clay loam, with here and there a small swamp. There is quite a high, rolling or gravel belt about three-fourths of a mile wide along east side of the township, and a rolling rocky strip near the southwest corner. Along the north boundary from about the centre of lot 8 to about the centre of lot 11 the soil is a light sand and the timber is nearly all dead from fire. . . . Nearly all the timber on the east side of the township, over a strip three-fourths of a mile wide, has been burned very recently.

P. 88, 1904. (Knox township). The country is generally level though very much broken, especially near the Abitibi river, with comparatively deep ravines. . . . This, with the enormous amount of windfall prevalent makes travelling through the country exceedingly arduous. From the nature of the soil, a heavy gray clay, and from the manner in which these ravines have apparently been formed, I imagine this section of the country will present problems in the way of drainage for cuts and fills in the construction of roads and railways.

P. 87. (Rickard township). The remarks in the township of Knox apply equally to Rickard. The swamp being more extensive and the country generally more level, an enormous amount of windfall and dense undergrowth even in the swamps. The soil a heavy gray clay. Timber, spruce and poplar, about forty per cent arable land.

P. 70. (Teffy township). The township is very rough, being broken throughout by deep ravines. The soil is chiefly clay and about fifty per cent of the township is good for agricultural purposes, the other fifty per cent being too rough for good farming purposes. There is about five hundred acres of muskeg and only about two thousand acres of swamp in the township. Eighty per cent of the township is covered with good spruce, balsam, birch, poplar, balm of gilead and banksian pine in general from medium to large timber, twenty per cent is from small to medium size, but of good quality.

P. 68. (Calvert township). The soil in the east and south parts of the township is a rich clay, in places mixed with sand. In the northwest part the soil is a reddish sand and gravel mixture. The timber is of fair size, principally green, consisting of spruce, poplar, balsam, birch and cedar very dense, with some fine balm