

Table I presents data from 29 samples, collected in Vancouver Island and the districts of New Westminster, Yale and Cariboo. The amounts of plant food, and the chief physical characters of these soils receive consideration and deductions are made therefrom as to their relative fertility. The soils formed by the accumulation of detritus at the mouths of the Fraser, Pitt and other rivers are shown to be particularly rich in plant food.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES AND MANITOBA.

The prairie soils of these regions present considerable uniformity in character. They are justly noted for their productivity, for analysis has shown them to contain, as a rule, large percentages of the essential constituents of plant food. Especially are they rich in humus and nitrogen. The prevailing prairie soil is a black or greyish-black loam in which nitrification proceeds rapidly when the soil is tilled.

Attention is drawn to the fact that alkali soils are almost invariably found to contain an abundant supply of plant food. The application of gypsum, drainage and irrigation are the means suggested for converting them into fertile soils. Such methods, unfortunately, are not always feasible.

Table II gives analytical data of eight typical surface soils from these provinces; those of a similar nature from the prairie soil of the Red River Valley being discussed in detail. The results demonstrate clearly that it may be classed among the richest of known soils.

ONTARIO.

Data are presented in Table III obtained from soils collected in the district of Muskoka only. These soils are characterized by a preponderance of sand, being such as would be classed as light loams. Clay loams, however, are occasionally met with. The chief deficiencies are in humus and nitrogen—frequently resulting from destructive forest fires—and in lime. Speaking of them as a class, the Muskoka soils are scarcely