

making pulp. The Pine River lands can be utilized as pasture, for the growth of hardy vegetables and for stock raising.

FROM MILE 523 TO MILE 737.

This part of the line runs through what is popularly called, the Peace River country, and has been almost continuously the theme of special reports, newspaper and magazine articles for the last fifteen or twenty-five years, and is the most extensive wheat and general farming area now unsettled on the continent. Quoting from Mr. Langloe's report, the portion that the line traverses lies south of the Peace River, and is an elevated plateau broken by a few isolated hills and ridges, and the valleys of the streams running north into the Peace River. The general elevation varies from 1,800 to 2,500 feet, with a few isolated points 2,800 feet high, and general slope from the south toward the Peace River. At mile 548 the line crosses the line between the Provinces of British Columbia and Alberta.

The line runs generally about 25 miles south of Peace River, excepting near Dunvegan, where it is only about 15 miles distant.

The country is generally covered with a small thick growth of poplar, willow and birch, and in some places some spruce, but the deciduous trees predominate. However, within this district are several extensive prairies, the most important of which are Pouce Coupe and Spirit River Prairies. The former has at least 200,000, and the latter 150,000 acres. There are also a large number of smaller prairies from 10,000 to 20,000 acres in extent. The lands in this district are absolutely first class. The soil is a dark loam, mixed with dark, rich clay, with clay subsoil, and the luxuriant growth of vegetation bears ample testimony as to the excellent character and productiveness of the soil. Wild grasses, such as peavine, red top, wild parsnips, etc., grow everywhere to a height of two or three feet, which hinders a person when walking through it.

The Hudson Bay factor, at St. Johns, informed Mr. Langloe that the Company had been raising vegetables, grains and potatoes for home use for the last hundred years. Mr. Bedson, the factor at Dunvegan, told him the same thing. At Spirit River, a halfbreed settlement, some of whom are very intelligent, say they have been raising grains and vegetables for years, and they usually get good crops, although they are poor farmers. Dr. Arthur Trembly,