

Q. What length of time does it take barley and wheat to ripen in that region?
 A. I have frequently heard it stated that wheat will mature in 90 days. I have not much knowledge of farming. Barley would ripen in somewhat less time.

Q. Has any of the seed wheat procured from northern Russia been tried in that district? A. Not yet. Some will be tried this coming year.

Q. Do you believe that this Russian wheat, if it ripens in 84 days, as stated, will always be a successful crop in that region? Will it always evade the autumn frost?
 A. Judging from my experience of eight years there, if we can get wheat that will ripen ten days earlier than the varieties we have been trying it ought to be as sure a crop as in any part of Ontario. During the eight years I have been there with the exception of one year, there was no damage from frost early in August.

Q. How does the cold of this region compare with the cold of Prince Albert?
 A. Of course the thermometer shows a greater degree of cold in this section, but not any greater than I have seen in Winnipeg.

Q. What is the character of the climate in September and October? A. Generally very bright, clear, open, enjoyable weather.

Q. What is the length of time stock require to be fed in winter? A. Of course from the time the heavy snow falls until the spring, and that time varies a good deal; as a rule, I should judge from November until March.

Q. About what time do the rivers and lakes of that northern region close? As a rule, in the early part of November.

By Honorable Mr. Alexander:

Q. During your experience there have you seen any year that the crops did not ripen from the want of sufficient heat? A. There has never been a complete failure.

By Honorable Mr. Almon:

Q. Are the Indians as long lived since they have gone on the reservations as they were when hunting? A. No, I do not think it.

Q. Is there much consumption amongst them? A. A good deal of consumption and scrofula.

The Committee adjourned at 12 o'clock until to-morrow.

THE SENATE,
 COMMITTEE ROOM, No. 17,
 THURSDAY, 5th April, 1888.

Dr. BAIN, re-called.

The CHAIRMAN—Your very interesting evidence of yesterday was broken off at the point where you were describing to us certain roots, fruits, grains and grasses which are grown by the Indians to the north of Prince Albert. As we have not yet printed the list of questions so as to give them to you in order, we will commence these questions by directing your attention to the grains which are upon the table in bottles. The first of these is wheat from the Mission at Fort Chipewyan, latitude 58, longitude 111; reaped August 27, 1885; weight 68 lbs. to the bushel.

The second is black beans from Dunvegan, latitude 56, grown by the Rev. Mr. Tessier in 1876.

The third is wheat and barley from Dunvegan, on Peace River, latitude 56, longitude 118.

The fourth is oats from Lake St. Anne, 60 miles north-west of Edmonton, and in the Mackenzie River District.

The fifth is wheat from the same place.

The sixth is barley from the same place.

The seventh is Fyfe wheat from near Edmonton, grown in 1879.

The eighth is club wheat from Edmonton, grown in 1879.

The ninth oats, the tenth and eleventh barley, the twelfth and thirteenth wheat from Fort Saskatchewan, near Edmonton.