

the lecturer described the natural vegetation of the Yukon and Klondike River valleys. The abundance of fruit was especially note-worthy. Red and black currants, blue-berries and rasp-berries were everywhere abundant, and cultivated varieties of all these fruits will do well. Vegetables of all kinds, except corn, do well, and though potatoes are said not to mature, new varieties more suitable to the soil and climate will doubtless be planted. There is nothing unsuitable to the growth of potatoes in the climate itself. Cabbage, turnips, etc., grow to an extraordinary size.

Careful metereological reports have been kept for five years, and these indicate that there is an average temperatuerof 70° or higher on 46 days each summer, and of 80° or higher on 14 days. These temperatures with bright sunshine and no frost for three months, amply account for the successful growing of vegetables. Spring opens about the end of April, the usual date for the last frost being May 23rd, and the first about August 23rd. Oats, barley and wheat, were secured on the latter date, and though the wheat was not ripe it ripened afterwards, and of 100 grains planted at the Experimental Farm none failed to grow and all were vigorous. Prof. Macoun made it clear that though the reports about frozen ground were in a measure true, the causes to which this condition was due are easily removeable, and they apply only to a part of the region. The physical features of the Yukon district were described, and the lecturer expressed the belief that in the very near future the district would be self-supporting. As a proof that the climate of Dawson was much the same as that of Ottawa he cited the fact that he collected a rose (*Rosa acicularis*) in bud at Aylmer, Que., on the 3rd of June. When he reached Dawson he found that Mr. Tyrrell had collected the same species in full bloom one day earlier, and other species collected by Mr. Tyrrell were found to be as early in blooming as at Ottawa. Prof. Macoun's address will be printed in full in an early number of THE NATURALIST.

The report of the Botanical Branch was read before Prof. Macoun's lecture was delivered.