

than that of the Awnless Brome grass. It does best in the foot-hills, growing generally in woods or in coulees, and gives better results there than even the Awnless Brome.

BALD WHEAT GRASS.

Another native grass which I will call your attention to is this of which I have a very fine sample with me to-day. It is called the Bald Wheat grass (*Elymus submuticus*). You see that the head bears a close resemblance to an ear of beardless or bald wheat. It is an exceedingly heavy cropper and is of very good quality. It gives little aftermath but furnishes a large crop of smooth clear, heavy hay, of good quality. The head contains much grain if the hay is left until the seeds form. For some reason, this grass has not become a favourite with farmers; but I consider it well worthy of more attention than it has received.

By the Chairman:

Q. Where does it come from?

A. It is found in Manitoba along the river sides, and is a western variety of the Virginia Lyme grass. It is a very rich and heavy grass, and gave the heaviest crop on our experimental plots of all the native grasses we have grown.

I will now show you a very fine sample of the ordinary timothy which was grown in the Algoma district, and it illustrates how well fitted that country is for growing timothy.

By Mr. Bell (Addington):

Q. I think that is rather above the average?

A. Yes, undoubtedly it is. It was sent in, however, as an ordinary sample. Timothy seems particularly well adapted to that northern country. I once collected a bunch of it at Sudbury while walking along the railway track and was able to gather quite a large bundle of which the stems were actually 7 feet high. This was several years ago, before the vegetation in that district had to such a large extent been spoiled by poisonous fumes from the mines. It seemed extraordinary to me that timothy should grow to such size on the bare clay banks of the railway where there was apparently little food for it.

Of course, it does not attain any such height as that I have mentioned when cultivated in fields at Sudbury.

NORTHERN BLUE JOINT.

Another excellent native grass to which I will draw your attention is the Northern Blue Joint (*Deeyuxia Langsdorffii*). It is one of the few grasses that will grow actually in water. It grows naturally on cool damp rocks and by lake and river sides. It is closely allied with the Common Blue Joint, and, like it, is essentially a low land grass which produces a large crop of soft leafy stems. The only trouble is that it is hard to get the seed to ripen well and the seed is not to be bought in the market. Every one who sees this grass growing at the experimental farm asks for seed and every seed we can grow is sent out to correspondents; but I have not yet been able to get a sufficiently large amount of seed to get it thoroughly established. It is a form of the ordinary Blue Joint found all over the continent, which is also very good grass. Some farmers have collected the seed of the latter on their farms and cultivated it to some extent. The Northern Blue Joint was collected on the rocks north of Lake Superior and is rather a better hay grass than the ordinary form, the stems being more slender and bearing more leaves.

By Mr. Calvert:

Q. Will it grow well on high lands?

A. Not very well on high dry lands, but in lands suitable for ordinary crops it succeeds admirably. The Grass Plots at the experimental farm are neither very