

NORTHLAND EXPLORATION

These photographs, and also any and all information you or your assistant and party may gather, are to be considered as the property of the Department.

The information to be acquired by you will embrace:

(1). The nature of the soil, whether sandy, gravelly, clay, etc., and its quality, and whether in your opinion it is capable of producing grain, hay or any other kind of crop. Wherever it is found that land has been occupied and cultivated or is now being cultivated, as for instance at posts of the Hudson Bay Company, you will make mention of the circumstance, and give such particulars as you can obtain of the success or failure of such cultivation. If you meet with any considerable peat deposit give such information regarding it as you can conveniently obtain.

(2). The various kinds of forest trees and the extent, size and quality of the timber, the comparative prevalence of the several varieties and generally all information concerning the forest growth and conditions which may be useful or valuable. You will also particularly note the extent of damage to timber by fire and whether of recent origin or not. If you meet any case of extensive damage from this cause within say the last year, get what information you can as to the cause.

(3). The fixed rocks met with, and economic minerals, if any.

(4). The flora, collecting and preserving specimens for subsequent identifications where this can be conveniently done.

(5). The fauna, particularly deer, moose, elk, fur-bearing animals and birds, or information concerning any of these which can be procured from the Indians, also the several species of fish in the lakes and rivers.

(6). The general features of the country from the explorations made on each side of the rivers and lakes.

(7). Valuable water powers, giving such information as regards the flow and volume of water as can be conveniently obtained and an estimate of the fall in each case, also describing the banks on each side of the stream.

If any large body of timber of economic value be observed or any considerable tract of good land be met with, you will take such steps as may be taken with the time at your disposal to arrive at a correct idea of its extent, nature, etc. Also in case a portion of the country appears to be of more than usual promise mineralogically. You should also indicate the most feasible ways in which land, timber or minerals may be opened up for occupation or use by roads, railways or waterways.

You will be supplied with 50 of the notices for "Prevention of Forest Fires," issued by the Forestry Branch of this Department. You will post these notices wherever they may in your opinion be placed to the most advantage and in other respects in regard to the protection of timber you will be expected to advise and assist the Department.

Your party will consist of Mr. W. R. Caldwell, who will act as your assistant, and yourself, together with such temporary help as you may require, but it is not expected that you will employ more than two local men as canoe men and packers. Both in regard to the procuring of equipment and supplies and the employment of labour and transport you will be expected to exercise due economy.

The members of your party including such temporary employees as you may engage are to be responsible to you and may be dispensed with if necessary.

An inventory of all articles of outfit supplied to you, or which you are purchasing at the Government's expense, should be made out by you and sent to the Department before you leave Prince Albert to be placed on file. This inventory to be itemized and classed under proper heads and in case of loss or damage to any of these articles, such loss or damage should be satisfactorily explained when your final return are made. Any article worn out and unreplaceable shall be at the same time so reported with such explanatory remarks as may seem to be required. Your assistant will be accountable to you for loss or damage to articles or instruments placed in his keeping for his use or otherwise.