

built before you put in the crop last year, with the knowledge you possess of the yield—supposing these people could have found a market, how much grain, wheat and other cereals and root crops fit for exportation could you have raised in the district you mentioned? A. I should estimate—it is a mere guess however—that the present population, with a year's notice, might serve the local market and export something like 100,000 bushels of wheat alone. I have only thought of it as a rough guess.

Q. How much of cereals of all kinds? A. The yield of oats and barley is larger than of wheat, but I premise that we would have to have a year's notice to prepare. The reason why I say so is only half the ground has been cultivated—that is broken up and cultivated and gone back—only about one-half has been in use during the last year or two. This plethora that was to take place was foreseen, and thoughtful men did not put in large crops, but the present population could double their output at once almost.

Q. That is to say the oats and barley would be double the quantity of wheat? A. Yes.

Q. That is a rough estimate of 300,000 bushels? A. Yes, with a year's notice.

Q. How far in the direction of Prince Albert has the railway already been built? A. To Langenburg, 180 miles from the junction with the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Q. How far is that from Prince Albert? A. In a straight line it is 270 miles.

Q. By the surveyed line? A. About 300 miles.

Q. When do you hope to have that railway into Prince Albert? A. I am afraid it is not so much "hope" as despair that has taken possession of us.

*By Honorable Mr. Almon:*

Q. When you went there in 1882 what was the population of the Prince Albert district? A. It has increased somewhat, notably in the town, but the population in the surrounding country has not increased except by natural increase. That is to say there has been very little immigration.

*By Honorable Mr. Gowan:*

Q. What about the health of the locality? A. It is a very healthy place?

Q. How many doctors have you? A. We have two.

*By Honorable Mr. Almon:*

Q. And how many lawyers? A. We have five or six of them.

*By Honorable Mr. Gowan:*

Q. Are there any diseases peculiar to the place? A. No, I am not aware of any at all. I know my own family have been very healthy.

*By Honorable Mr. Almon:*

Q. Is there small-pox among the Indians or half-breeds? A. There has been no visitation of it since I have been there. I believe some of the half-breeds and Indians are not of robust constitution. Scrofula seems to prevail among them to some extent.

*By Honorable Mr. Alexander:*

Q. What about the probable supply of fuel in the event of a large population going in there? I suppose you will depend upon coal? A. Coal is at present worked at Edmonton. There are also indications of coal immediately below Prince Albert, and we are told that it is to be found to the north.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. At what place? A. I believe on the Athabasca and the Peace River there are indications of it and also of mineral oil or petroleum.

Q. Has asphaltum been found? A. Yes.

Q. And salt? A. Yes.

Q. And gypsum? A. Yes; I believe so. We have heard of all these from people who have been there.

Q. Have brick and pottery clays been found? A. My colleague who has gone home says he has seen moulders' sand on the Saskatchewan. It is a valuable article, inasmuch as it is found in very few places on this continent. There are also indications of iron near the Saskatchewan. There are springs very much impregnated with iron.