

of the Saskatchewan that have some rock, such as at the Lake of the Woods and Cobalt, and the rich mineral country—the Huronian rocks. It takes time to find minerals. This first area he spoke of is only 40 or 50 miles northeast of Cumberland House on the Moose river. The area in question lies north of Athapapuskow, Cranberry lake, and Red lake, as well as Wabishkoka lake. There is another area of the same rocks on the Nelson river, crossing the Grass lake and running through the Pipe Stone lake. There are probably some minerals in those rocks. Outside of that you will not find anything of very great importance.

The character of the rock at Lac La Ronge, north of Prince Albert, is limestone. This country is just in a wide limestone district, starting from Lake Montreal, which is on a cutaneous hill. From Montreal lake to Lac La Ronge you go down stream at a great pace, running down through sandy beds, and a great mass of stuff which you could never get through. When you reach Lac La Ronge you are down to limestone. Between those two there are all those rocks which carry coal oil or petroleum in the Athabaska country. There is a line of hills here, that are so covered by the sand and gravel that nothing can be told about what there is in them till they are explored by boring or digging.

Mr. Dowling being asked if there are any indication of the rock containing any material used for making cement, replied that in that country there are only two places that he knew of where the right kind of lime could be got. It is clay and shale. You must have the limestone free from magnesia. The two places he referred to are in Manitoba, Split Rock on Lake Manitoba, and some little island in Swan lake, near Dawson bay. There is an island on the lake with pure limestone, and a point on Lake Manitoba. The limestones of Lake Winnipeg and all the other lakes are too high in magnesia.

Witness knew nothing about the coal seams at Lac La Ronge, but he had seen coal there. If there is a coal seam it is on the hill above the level. At Lac La Ronge there is limestone in the bed of the lake. The coal is up above the limestone. If there is coal there, it must have been discovered on the river running into Lac La Ronge, because Lac La Ronge is too low. You have to go up a hill to get coal.

There have been no indications of oil along that country of the character of the Athabaska oil. In some of the higher lakes above the Athabaska the oil had been distilled.

There is iron ore, and the possibility of gold and silver ore, and also copper ores in the Grass river district. There is no asbestos. With reference to mica, it can be found all over that country, but it is in small pieces. It is not likely to be very large at Stanley. Witness would hardly expect a large piece of mica to be found there. There are some amber deposits near the mouth of the Saskatchewan river. It is all in small bits like pieces of resin, in fact that is all it is. It is resin brought down by the Saskatchewan river, and left there. It is not a very valuable mineral, too hard and brittle to be used for pipe stems or anything of that sort. There was talk about it at one time, but it is all over now.

Witness heard nothing of petroleum being discovered north of Cumberland House. It takes time to find it.

CLIMATE.

With reference to the climate, witness did not care to say very much, because he had only been in the country in the summer time, and without having taken records of temperature it would hardly do. The country was in a flourishing condition, and they never expected to have anything frozen. The most northerly point where he had seen vegetables products in Keewatin was on the Nelson river about 56, which would be 180 miles north of Churchill.

At Churchill they had winds from the southwest all summer long, which made it very warm, but there were two days when the wind shifted and came from the north,