

APPENDIX No. 2

Mr. CLANCY.—At Raymond ?

A. At Raymond.

Experience has proved that to cultivate sugar beet with success the same cannot very well be cultivated on newly broken land, and in fact it takes at least three breakings before the land is ploughed deep and is mellow enough to render the growth of sugar beets successful. This will be easily understood when one takes into consideration the depth to which the sugar beet reaches. The first year's ploughing only disturbs the ground to the extent of about three or four inches, and as in this case, is generally sowed with oats; in the fall this ground was again ploughed up and the next spring, after the land had been copiously irrigated, it was sowed with beet sugar seeds. Here I must say that the company experienced a difficulty which was most unfortunate for them, but which again shows the power of that country for grain raising. Although the ground had been well ploughed before seeding with beet sugar, the waste oats of the previous season started to grow in such abundance, that of the 3,000 acres the company had sowed with beet sugar seed, they had to abandon 1,800 acres and restrict their efforts to the cultivation of the remaining 1,200 acres, and although the beets were almost choked by the growth of the oats, which in some instances had reached a height of about eight to ten inches, the results of that crop were about eight tons to the acre, which, under the circumstances, was considered very satisfactory.

Q. I had information that I believe to be reliable in character that it did not reach six, in fact that it was somewhere about five tons.

A. Of course I do not question your information, but my authority for the statement is a person who is thoroughly reliable and who had personally seen the result of the crop.

By Mr. Smith (Wentworth) :

Q. I would be surprised if they got five tons, after what they had done.

A. The 1,800 acres which were abandoned gave a growth of from 20 to 23 inches of oats; that is, of straw, which, I was informed, was used green for fodder.

It took the factory three weeks to reduce this crop to sugar, and the gross product of the same was about three quarters of a million pounds of sugar.

I, have been informed that to permit this company to reap fair profits on their outlay, say 10 per cent per annum, the cultivation of 3,000 acres is necessary, and the average yield per acre must be about ten tons, being equal to 60,000 pounds of beet, yielding on an average ten per cent of sugar, leaving after expenses are deducted about one cent per pound of a profit, paying, therefore, a dividend of from 10 to 12 per cent on the outlay.

By Mr. Clancy :

Q. Well, that man did not know much about beets, or he would not write that.

A. Well, I have read that in England at the present time some assays have been made to ascertain the percentage of sugar in beets, and that in some instances the results were as high as 15 and 18 per cent. Of course, there is some loss in manufacturing sugar from the beet, but to offset this I only give ten per cent. I think that what has been done in the North-west shows that this industry is a success, and will be a great help to settlement in that district.

In addition to the above, let us see to what extent the cultivation of sugar beet may be a factor in helping financially the parents of a large family of young children. The price paid to farmers by the above mentioned company for sugar beet having a fair percentage of sugar is \$4.75 per ton on board the cars; this would be at the rate