Q. And how far north? A. I cannot say as to that. It does go north, and we have been told by those who have travelled in the Peace River country, reliable men, that the climate there is quite as good as ours, although it is considerably further north. I have not been there myself and I only speak from hearsay, but I get my information from reliable persons.

Q. I think I am speaking the feeling of the Committee when I say that the information you have given of your own knowledge is very valuable, but we do not wish to confine you to that. You must have had conversation with Hudson's Bay Company men, missionaries and others living north of you, and you are quite at liberty to make statements giving information derived from such sources? A. I have heard that spoken almost universally of the Peace River District by men who have been there, Hudson's Bay Company's servants and others.

By Honorable Mr. Alexander:

Q. In the absence of a railway, what employment could laborers expect to receive at Prince Albert now? Would there be much employment for agricultural laborers coming from England, Scotland and Ireland now? A. The thing has come to be in a different position this year from what it was before, but up to this last crop and while this crop was being taken off the ground, there was a scarcity of agricultural laborers. It is difficult to hire men, and the common wages paid in our district was $30 per month and board—that is practically $1 a day and board.

By Honorable Mr. Gowan:

Q. You have referred to summer frost hurting the wheat: does that same frost which injures the wheat affect the potato or the beet? A. It does not affect the beet, but it does affect the potato, so far as the top is concerned, but the potato is generally nearly ripe.

Q. It is only partially injurious? A. It is a temporary, not a permanent injury. It does not injure the tuber, but has a sensible effect on the top.

Q. The beet is usually considered more tender with us and we find that a frost which affects the beet seriously does not injure the potato so much? A. I have not found it so. I grow beets of several varieties, and last year I allowed them to remain on the ground until they were almost frozen in. In the case of Swedish turnips they were actually frozen and thawed two or three times but they were not injured at all.

By Honorable Mr. McClelan:

Q. You spoke about the value of wheat; what is the market value of potatoes and other vegetables? A. The highest price I have seen potatoes bring there since I went to the district, was $1 a bushel. That was a year when there was a small crop.

Q. That is the local market? A. The local market entirely. I think they were $1.25 ultimately, or something like that. This year the crop, like other crops, was large and there was no outlet for them almost at all. The price began about 40 cts. a bushel, and was down I dare say to 15 cts. a bushel, paid to those who choose to sell. I had a considerable crop myself and did not know what to do with them. I made an outside cellar and put 300 or 400 bushels in there and fed the balance of them.

Q. You would consider, I suppose, from the tendency of your testimony, so far as the Prince Albert District is concerned, that cattle feeding would be, after all, the most permanent and profitable business for the farmer? A. There is a certainty in it. There is no risk; we have no diseases of cattle. We do not profess that cattle can winter out there the way they do at Calgary. Ranching on a small scale, providing winter feed for the cattle, is very safe. There is never any trouble in wintering at all.

By the Chairman:

Q. What is the population of Prince Albert settlement—taking the settlement as Fort à la Corne—that is, Prince Albert and the adjacent settlements—what is the farming population? A. The population, the municipality included, is put at about 5,000. I believe it is something over that.

Q. You notice on this map the line of the Manitoba and North-Western Railway indicating that it is located a certain distance. Supposing that railway had been