To the north large open tracts are interspersed through the forest land. The standing timber consists of poplar and spruce of good size with Banksian pine on sandy soil.

Mr. Eberts examined the country to the east and for 35 miles north of Lac la Biche. He reports the good land to terminate five miles north of the Lake.

From information obtained from various sources, he considers that the general northern limit of good land in this district may be taken as extending from about latitude 54° 30 in longitude 108° north-westerly to Lac la Biche in latitude 55°.

Of the country north of this line to Clearwater River and west to the Athabasca the only information is that obtained from the Hudson Bay officers and others who have hunted in the district. They describe it as sandy and marshy, with occasional tracts of alluvial land along the streams.

The country lying to the south of Lac la Biche and Lesser Slave Lake and between the 112th and 116th meridian has not been fully examined. Its character along the Saskatchewan and for some distance north and west of Edmonton is better known. This region has been traversed in two or three directions, but there are wide intervening spaces which remain unvisited.

It is generally a wooded district with some open prairie and copse wood, the latter chiefly bordering on the Saskatchewan.

To the south of Lesser Slave Lake the country is hilly and broken, and along the margin of the lake swampy. From the outlet of the lake south-east to the Athabasca the land is described as low with some tracts of good sandy loam. On the Athabasca the banks are more elevated, and as far as examined the soil is light and of a variable quality. It is covered here and there with luxuriant pasture and is generally lightly timbered. For about seventy miles north of Edmonton the country is described as in every way inviting, the soil is rich, with tall grass and pea-vine, well watered by streams and occasionally dotted with aspen copse. Approaching Edmonton the soil is exceptionally good with luxuriant hay meadows and gently rolling wheat lands of great fertility. Large fields of wheat were during the past year successfully cultivated in this quarter.