

WITNESS HAS FAITH IN THE NORTHLAND

Superintendent of Dominion Experimental Farm Defends Country.

Associated Press by Leased Wire.

KAPUSKASING, Ont., March 9.—

"Get the bush cleared away, get surface drainage done and let in the sunshine," was the answer to J. P. A. Ballantyne, superintendent of the Dominion Government experimental farm, to a question asked today by Chairman W. F. Nickle, of the Commission investigating conditions at Kapuskasing, as to what should be done to lessen the likelihood of frost in that district.

"You have faith in this country?" queried Mr. Nickle.

"I certainly have. I came here poorer than any man in it and I am well fixed today. My health is good and I am satisfied to stay."

Continuing, Mr. Ballantyne said he went north in 1905 to follow railroading and in 1913 he took up a farm near Hearst. The first fifty acres he cleared himself at a cost of \$60 an acre. He now had his farm rented at \$600 a year. He thought the conditions at Kapuskasing were similar to those at Hearst.

Land Hard To Clear.

"I will say that the land is hard to clear here," Mr. Ballantyne added, "the hardest I have ever seen." He advocated clearing some of the land by fire—land where there was no saleable timber. He said he thought the Government should compensate settlers who would clear fifty acres of land in the north country.

Wm. A. Telfer, manager of the Colony store, said the store refrigerator was unsatisfactory and flour was kept in a building that was not mouse-proof. He had no time to fix up the storehouse himself, he said. Two shipments of meat had been refused by him, he said, because the refrigerator was never below 42 degrees. One shipment was re-shipped to him by the agent. On both occasions he had advised A. E. B. Bruce, at the Parliament buildings, Toronto. Meat for the soldiers' settlement, Mr. Telfer said, always arrived in the same car as the meat for the internment camp, but sometimes it was two days before the meat was brought into the soldiers' settlement, the internment camp being attended to first.