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tured from all points of view and from base to top. Sixty-four photographs are given to the mountain alone and we see all its aspects in quietude and eruption, even to the interior of the most important craters. The descriptions are based upon the geology and geography of the region, the story of the volcano in historic times is told, and the setting of the great mountain, from the sea to the hills and plains bordering the inland slopes with their towns and hamlets, people and little farms, is well described in text and picture. The book is meant for the general reader and tourists will find it very helpful.

Canada's Fertile Northland. A Glimpse of the Enormous Resources of Part of the Unexplored Regions of the Dominion. Edited by Captain Ernest J. Chambers. 139 pp., 17 Half-tone Illustrations and 5 Coloured Maps in Case. Published under Direction of R. E. Young, Department of the Interior, Ottawa, 1907.

Contains the evidence heard before a Special Committee of the Dominion Senate during the session of 1906-07 and the report based upon it. In his introduction Captain Chambers says that at the present rate of immigration, Canada's future expansion in agricultural, lumbering, mining and industries will depend upon the exploitation of the vast, unexplored northland. In 1905 Mr. R. E. Young prepared a statement showing that the available lands for free homesteads in the present area of settlement in the western provinces would be exhausted before very long, and calling attention to the possibilities further north and the paucity of information about the country to the north of the Saskatchewan basin.

The result was that a Senate Committee was appointed to inquire and report, from time to time, as to the resources and value of the region north of the Saskatchewan watershed between the Rocky Mountains and Hudson Bay, comprising the northern parts of Alberta and Saskatchewan Provinces and the Mackenzie Territory. The Committee was empowered to send for persons, papers and records, and more than a month in February and March, 1907, was given to taking testimony. The first investigation was practically completed by April and the results are told in this book.

In the evidence heard before the Committee some striking facts stand out prominently, a number of which are summarized in the Introduction. Mr. A. P. Low, for example, said that Ungava possesses a belt of iron-bearing rock, probably 100 miles long and 200 to 300 miles wide, which in the future will furnish a large supply of iron for Canada. He also said that in the region north of Lake Winnipeg is an area of 5,000 to 10,000 square miles of country adapted for agriculture.

Mr. W. F. Breden, a member of the Alberta Legislature, estimated the area of the available agricultural lands in northern Alberta and Mackenzie at 100,000,000 acres. Others testified that at a point some 400 miles due north of Edmonton splendid crops of wheat, barley, oats, peas, etc., have been regularly raised for more than twenty years, the product for 1906 being 25,000 bushels. The production of grain in these sparsely settled regions has resulted in the establishment of local grist mills of considerable capacity which manufacture flour by modern processes. Potatoes and other vegetables have for years been satisfactorily cultivated at Fort Good Hope, on the Mackenzie River, 14 miles from the Arctic Circle. Vegetation matures quickly owing to the long, sunny days of summer. The lakes and rivers teem with fish, there is an abundance of game and considerable mineral wealth, including coal, oil, copper, silver, gold, salt, sulphur, ochre, sand for glass making, etc. Timber also is in important supply.

The Committee say in their report:

Although in the north the thermometer in the winter season registers low temperatures, the cold is much more bearable than are far higher temperatures in countries where there is humidity in the atmosphere. There is said to be little or no difference between the climate at Lesser Slave Lake and that at Edmonton, 250 miles to the south. The Chinook winds blow as far north as Fort Providence and for 21 days during last January it was not necessary to wear overcoats there. West of Peace River Crossing, stockmen must feed their cattle about seven weeks in winter but eastward the snow is deeper and cattle have to be fed a little longer. At Fort St. John on the Peace River they often sow wheat in March and last year began cutting the wheat on the last day of July.

The pioneers in these northern regions are looking forward hopefully to the time when railroads will give them an outlet to markets. Evidence was adduced as to the great extent and possibilities of the inland waterways in the Mackenzie basin. A few steamboats have been plying for years on the longer stretches of the Mackenzie, Peace, Liard and Athabaska rivers, and also on Lake Athabaska and Great Slave Lake. The testimony that by the construction of two stretches of railroad, altogether about 20 miles long, an uninterrupted water and rail route of 3,000 miles may be provided, seems worthy of official investigation.

The Committee presented conclusions for the consideration of the Government to the effect that a railroad connecting existing lines with Fort Churchill on Hudson Bay would open up a large tract of country well fitted for settlement, as well as afford an additional outlet for the products of the West; that to determine the resources of the cultivable land of this district and its forest and mineral wealth, exploring parties qualified to report on the geological formations, soils, timber lands and navigation should be sent out; that although wheat and other cereals ripen as far north as Fort Providence ($61^{\circ} 30' N.$), travel and settlement there have clung to the waterways, so that knowledge is limited to comparatively narrow strips of territory, and the Committee, therefore, cannot report as to the extent of the wheat-bearing belt in the Peace River and Mackenzie River basins. Neither is it clearly established whether the arable quality of the lands throughout the whole extent of these two river basins is uniform, as the evidence covers only a small part of the region.

The photographs show grain fields, timber, prairie, potato fields, a flour mill, a gas well, ox-cart transportation, settlements, etc., and a wide variety of information is recorded on the maps.

Botanische Reisestudien von der Spanischen Mittelmeerküste mit besonderer Berücksichtigung der Litoralsteppe. Von Dr. M. Rikli. viii and 155 pp., 20 Photographic Illustrations, 11 Figures in the Text and Index. Fäsi & Beer, Zürich, 1907. (Price M. 5.20.)

Dr. Rikli is Docent and Curator in the Polytechnic at Zürich. Accompanied and assisted by some of his colleagues and students, he spent the spring months of 1905 and 1906 in the botanical study of the Mediterranean coast of Spain from Catalonia in the northeast to the steppe lands of the southeast. As they wandered through the heaths and steppes, the forests, the *huertas* or garden lands and other cultivated areas and the palm oases of these coast lands, a wonderful variety of wild and cultivated growths was recorded. The finely illustrated book describes the manifold types of vegetation found on the long littoral. The value of the work is largely enhanced by the history it contains of previous explorations of a similar nature, and most of all by the conventional signs prefixed to each botanical name, indicating whether the plant is merely local or extends through the Mediterranean area or is also found in Central Europe or in the East, as in