

acre to prepare this land for farming; but the Professor overlooked a very important item, not including over-estimation of figures. On land that would cost, say, from \$20.00 to \$30.00 an acre to clear, the Professor missed the point that this land is pretty well timbered, and on such timbered land the settler makes a neat little profit over the above figures on the timber taken off, be it pulpwood, logs or ties. If the settler cuts his timber into logs, it depends on the party he deals with as to whether he gets returns or not. On land where marketable timber is a little scattering and the bush is more of a second growth or scrubby nature, it does not cost nearly so much to clear.

North of the Height of Land, in the neighborhood of Mon-teith, there is no doubt but that the quality of the soil will fully come up to expectations. Professor Fernow, in his lecture before the Commission, says that, "Besides root-crops, potatoes, etc., only hay and oats may be expected to yield good returns." This statement of the Professor's is somewhat ambiguous (one of many), for if the land will grow these kind of crops, what will it not grow? for it takes good soil to grow root-crops, that is, of the kind exhibited at the Toronto Exhibition in 1911, which were successfully grown in the Northern Ontario Clay Belt.

I find that the general tendency among the majority of the settlers in this neighborhood (Homer Siding) is to slash, without due regard to thoughts of cultivation, and the result is that within a year or so several of them will not have any timber worth mentioning left on their homesteads and not enough land cleared ready for cultivation to grow food enough to keep a team of horses over winter without buying fodder. Keeping other stock is out of the question.

With regard to the general character of the settlers where I lived last winter, suffice to say that their qualities in regard to hospitality and readiness to help a neighbor entirely shadows any defects that may be noticed by an outsider. Any defect the settler may have unfortunately redounds upon himself and family (if he has one) more than upon anyone else. It is really up to the man himself. With a little thinking he can make use of facilities, sometimes right at his door, and which would during the winter months save hours of time. If he has any tastes at all in the matter of refinement, life, even in the backwoods, can possess comforts worth having, and of all the schools in the world there is no place like the farm, where the saying "Use your head and save your feet" is more applicable.

(Signed) GEO. PRICE.