

the settlers concerned. Where two settlers have made improvements on the same quarter-section, and when the merits of each case are about evenly divided, it seems fair that instead of allowing outside influence to outweigh the merits of one of the claimants a division of the land should be made between the two settlers so as to protect their respective interests.

HALF-BREED SCRIP.

Another departure is the fact that the indiscriminate local of Half-breed Scrip upon newly-entered land has been discontinued, so that it is not now possible for a speculator to arrange with an entrant so that the latter will agree to forego his right to the land so that the former may have an opportunity of acquiring it at a much lower price than it would be. In future the location of Half-breed Scrip on a homestead will only be permitted where it is shown that the homesteader has performed reasonable residence and has substantial improvements upon the place so that he is prevented for some good reason from completing the same.

Dr. Roche has arranged for the issue of a new edition of the Land Regulations. Every effort is being made so to consolidate and simplify the regulations as to afford intending settlers the best opportunity possible of acquainting themselves with the requirements of the Department insofar as the acquiring of free homestead land is concerned.

DEALING WITH THE WEST

The Minister has arranged that the chiefs of the various branches of the departmental service should take regular trips during the summer months in order to keep in touch with the Western conditions. The Department has been represented at the large conventions, notably that of Forestry at Winnipeg, and of the Irrigation Congress at Lethbridge, by the officers in charge of those divisions.

The Minister has arranged to have the officers of the Water Power Branch of his Department co-operate in every way possible with the Public Utilities Commission of Winnipeg in connection with the establishment of a permanent water supply for the City of Winnipeg.

He is also arranging for the immediate inspection and classification of swamp lands which were recently revested in the Dominion by the Province of Manitoba, so that these lands may be turned over as soon as possible to actual settlers and thus be made productive for the general good of the Province.