CROWN LANDS DEPARTMENT.

areas of new land in the Province. The Bureau was placed under the charge of the Commissioner of Crown Lands, and during the two years splendid results have been obtained.

The work of the Bureau was directed not alone to looking after immigration from outside, but to show our own people who were looking for land the advantages possessed by the different parts of the new districts of this Province, and further by securing reduced railway rates, employing land guides, directing the building of wagon roads and bridges, and in many other ways aiding them in settling upon the land and getting it under crop.

It is the policy of the Government that while it welcomes intelligent, law-abiding strangers, it will give them no aid or advantage that is not given the people of Ontario. Through the system of land guides, settlers are directed to good agricultural land, of which there is an abundance in the Province. Atter location, they have advantages probably superior to that of settlers in any other province or country from the fact that in addition to being able in most cases to dispose of considerable timber at a fair price, they also have opportunities for employment on colonization roads and in connection with the mining, lumber and other industries of the newer parts of Ontario.

By encouraging industries, and through the building of railways in the various districts, the Government has therefore provided local markets for labor and produce in all the new settlements. The Bureau has already accomplished much in convincing land-seekers that our Northland is not the frozen, inhospitable region many would have them believe, but a region containing some of the richest farming lands in the world.

It is impossible to tell how many people have settled in New Ontario during 1901. Many have settled in the villages and engaged in business and mechanical callings. In the western part of Nipissing a large number of settlers have located and started to make farms who have not applied for locations, and of these there is no record. In Thunder Bay district many new settlers have bought lands from private parties, who purchased them from the Crown many years ago as mining lands. The Rainy River section also continues to be an attractive field for home-seekers.

In June of 1901 an excursion was run to the Temiscamingue townships. Nearly two hundred took advantage of it, most of whom remained to take up land. New townships have been opened to settlement here as fast as requirements demanded.

BUILD UP ONTARIO

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