

culture developments, would no doubt remain and facilitate the agricultural re-creation of the Island. With proper cultivation, the Premier told me, the Island should carry a population of four hundred thousand.

Obviously, the first step towards the four hundred thousand is to prove the possibilities of closer cultivation in a few typical districts.

QUEBEC.

The Premier of Quebec told me that efforts to draw back to the Province those who had left it for New England had produced moderate results. The Province, as a whole, does not move rapidly away from time-honoured methods of farming. No estimate is forthcoming as to the extent to which more population may be carried on existing farms. The Lake St. John region is capable of considerable increase of population, and in the country tributary to the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway and the National Transcontinental Railway there is room for many more settlers.

As a Commissioner has been specially appointed to investigate the possibilities of enlarged immigration from France and Belgium, whose people would naturally be disposed to settle amidst congenial linguistic conditions, it is necessary to say but little here on this subject, except that as the natural increase of the rural population in Quebec is in advance of that of the other provinces, greater plenitude of population in Quebec will probably be accomplished from within, rather than from without.

The Province has recently appointed the Hon. Dr. Pelletier, Agent-General in London, but has not contemplated carrying on aggressive immigration work from his office.

Repatriation movement has been moderately successful.

Special commissioner sent to France and Belgium

ONTARIO.

The appropriation by the Provincial Government of five million dollars for a settlement scheme in New Ontario, where sixteen million acres of fertile clay lands are being bisected by two transcontinental railways, indicates that this province has a large receptive capacity for immigration.

The Clay Belt is only part of Ontario's demand for more people on the land, which, as shown by agricultural research at Guelph and other colleges, may be made to support four times as many people and stock as it does now. The discovery of this enlargement of capacity has coincided with a drain to the West, which has not been confined to the less favoured localities. The province has become alive to the necessity for more thickly populating certain of the older sections, as well as to the incalculable advantage of settling the Clay Belt.

Five million dollars appropriated for New Ontario.

Effect of drain to the West.