

apparent loss in the rural parts of some 111,000; but if extension to the north is taken into consideration, the real loss was 248,000 in the original limits of the Confederation.

These facts do not imply that the land occupied in these rich and favored districts has gone out of cultivation. It is true that many of the occupants have moved to the west or into the cities, but in most cases the farms have been sold or added to adjoining farms, the owners of which found it possible to cultivate a greater area with the same farm implements. However, it does mean that many farm houses have ceased to be occupied, and there has been a shortage of men to assist in the work of operating the farms. It is generally believed now that all these unoccupied houses could be used for farm labourers who could assist in the work of the larger units; and their wives could share the work of the women in the old homesteads, to the mutual advantage of all concerned.

### WORK AND HOMES ARE WAITING

The Association aims at facilitating such arrangements, by directing incoming farmers to such places, where they can be usefully employed until they have become accustomed to the conditions of farm life in this country; and they can then either buy in the neighbourhood or move to the west with experience sufficient to give hope of permanent prosperity.

One of the best and richest districts in Western Ontario lost, by the removal of its inhabitants, 1,064 householders in one decade. Hon. Mr. Drury, the Premier of Ontario, states: "In one of the best counties near my home, I counted 14 empty