

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR HAS LARGE RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon It Devolves the Settlement of Returned Soldiers Upon the Land in the Work of Reconstruction After the War—It Involves Several Branches of Important Work.

In the whole work of reconstruction after the war, the responsibility especially following upon the Department of the Interior is the settlement of returned soldiers upon the land. This responsibility involves:

- (1) The agricultural training, where necessary of returned men.
 - (2) The passing upon the qualifications of applicants.
 - (3) The providing of land.
 - (4) Assistance in financing.
 - (5) Subsequent supervision.
- In 1917 parliament passed what is known as the "Soldier Settlement Act." This act has been in operation for some months and while, in view of the rapidly expanding necessities of returned men, very important extensions of the Government's policy have now been decided upon, it is desirable that a brief summary be given of the provisions and scope of the present act and of its administration. This will be of value, not only in an understanding of what is to be done to the returned soldier under the act, but also in order that a clear view may be obtained of the effect of the proposals for the extensions of the entire Soldier Settlement Policy now proposed.

The Soldier Settlement Act.

Who may apply: Under the provisions of the Soldier Settlement Act of the Dominion of Canada, persons entitled to benefit as "settlers" are those who have served with the Expeditionary Forces and who have left with an honorable record or who have been honorably discharged, namely (a) any person who has served in the naval or military expeditionary forces of Canada during the present war; (b) any such person who has been engaged in active service during the present war in the naval or military forces of the United Kingdom or of any of the self-governing British Dominions or Colonies; (c) any such person, who, being a British subject, resident in Canada before the war, has been engaged in active service at one of the theatres of war in either the naval or military forces of any of His Majesty's Allies in the present war; (d) the widow of any person described above who died on active service.

Loans to Settlers: Loans may be made to settlers.

made by the Soldier Settlement Board to settlers entitled as above for any of the following objects: the acquiring of land for agricultural purposes, the payment of incumbrances on agricultural land, the erection of farm buildings, the purchase of stock, machinery and equipment and such other purposes as the Board may approve. The money loaned shall be expended under the supervision of the Board.

Security and Amount: In making any loan, it is provided that the Soldier Settlement Board must be satisfied that the value of the security offered is sufficient to justify the amount of the loan, the value being estimated on the basis of the agricultural productivity of the land and the security given; also, that the applicant has the ability to make from the land a fair living for himself and his family after making all interest and other payments which may become due with respect to the land. The value of the land and security will be determined by the Board by inspection and appraisal.

First mortgage security must be given in case of all loans upon privately-owned lands. All loans upon Dominion Lands shall constitute a first charge. No loans can be made upon a leasehold, agreement of sale, or other limited title.

Repayment: All loans shall bear interest at the rate of five per cent. per annum. The principal and interest are to be paid in equal annual instalments, extending over not more than twenty years. The Soldier Settlement Board may defer payment of the first two instalments to such later date as it may deem expedient.

Qualification to Farm: The settler must have the necessary knowledge and fitness to farm. If his previous occupation has not been farming, he may secure the necessary training and experience by engaging in agricultural work with practical farmers, or otherwise, and he may be then dealt with in the opinion of the Board as to his qualification to successfully farm. Plans for the agricultural training of returned soldiers are now being arranged.

Procedure: Until the soldier is discharged application for loan or land cannot be dealt with. The first step of the returned soldier who wishes to make application under the act is to procure from the Soldier Settlement Board a blank preliminary information form. This may be done by addressing the Soldier Settlement Board at Ottawa, or preferably the local Provincial Office of the Board. The records in the Militia Department at Ottawa will then be consulted for a report on that applicant's military record, and if the report shows the applicant to be eligible as a settler, a certificate of his eligibility will be issued to him. His application will then be forwarded to the Board for consideration.

Operation of Act: Up to the 1st November, 1918, loans to nine hundred and seventy-five returned soldiers aggregating \$1,239,885.00 had been approved. One hundred and sixty-two applications for loans were under consideration at that date. Six hundred and seventy-five soldier entries had been made on Dominion lands in the Prairie provinces under the provisions of the act.

Representations having been made by the Great War Veterans and Soldiers' bodies that there were in Western Canada this spring a large number of returned soldier farmers whose need for rehabilitation to enable them to successfully farm lands occupied by them before enlistment caused the Board to decide that two of its members should go West in April to take care of this problem.

In order to carry on this work of settlement, the Board has placed in charge of supervisors, under the Soldier Settlement Board, to ensure that the assistance given to soldiers would be administered along sound lines and that men would not be encouraged to settle on unsuitable

land. Honorary Loan Advisory Boards were established. These Honorary Boards were composed of men fitted by long experience for the responsibility they undertook, and these men have given freely to their services to the general advantage of all concerned.

Later, offices were opened at Montreal, Toronto and Victoria, with similar Loan Advisory Boards, and arrangements made with the Minister of Agriculture, Prince Edward Island, the Secretary of the Farm Loan Board for the Province of New Brunswick, and the Secretary of the Nova Scotia Returned Soldiers' Commission for the administration of the act in these provinces.

The following is a loan statement for the total amount:

Number of applicants	1,400
Number approved	975
Amount	\$1,239,885
Average loan	1,271
Number pending	162

Further Proposals as to Soldier Settlement.

It is to be noted that the provisions of the above act look chiefly to the settlement of returned soldiers on Dominion Crown Lands and to assisting them in financing farming operations. It is not intended that the applicant should be required to give him definite direction during the early years of farming.

It must be pointed out that, in order to benefit by any soldier settlement scheme, the man himself must be prepared to make farming his life work. The present act, after the South-Western scheme, is a comprehensive scheme of State assistance to a substantial proportion of our army and thus to build into the industrial structure of Canada in its most vital sphere the best body of our citizenship.

The great object sought is this: To add to Canadian Agriculture by a comprehensive scheme of State assistance to a substantial proportion of our army and thus to build into the industrial structure of Canada in its most vital sphere the best body of our citizenship.

The desirability of acquiring lands privately owned arose not only from the fact that available Crown Lands were too limited but also from the circumstance that Dominion Crown Lands were to be found only in four provinces of the Dominion, whereas it was manifestly only fair and right that federal activities in soldier settlement should be carried on adequately and vigorously in all the provinces.

It further seemed economically sound that the State should for these purposes so direct its policy as to bring into production areas of land now privately owned, but for one reason or the other not under cultivation.

It is, therefore, proposed that at the approaching session of the Dominion Parliament legislation be enacted giving to the Soldier Settlement Board power for the acquisition of private lands by purchase or otherwise for the purposes of soldier settlement. The Minister of the Interior has also urged upon representatives of the Provincial Governments that in any cases where land is acquired by such Governments for general settlement purposes, a preference should be given in the disposition of such land to the returned soldier. It is requested that any lands so acquired be sold to the Soldier Settlement Board at the price of acquisition and for a limited time. In this way the principle of preference would be clearly and firmly established.

A reference to the plans of the Department of Immigration and Colonization looking to an aggressive general land settlement policy will show that such plans invite and urge the co-operation of Provincial Governments and legislatures by the enactment of their part of such legislation as will prevent speculative increases in the value of idle lands by the purchase of these efforts will of course ensure to the benefit of the soldiers in keeping to the lowest limit consistent with fair dealing the cost of their farms.

The Soldier Settlement Board has expressed the opinion that it would be in the interests of the returned men and would tend to the success of Soldier Settlement generally if they be given power to acquire not only land but also stock and equipment such as is required for farming operations. To what extent the exercise of this power will be found necessary cannot of course be stated. It is believed, however, that by this means the Board will be enabled to be of considerable help. The amendments sub-

mitted to parliament will, therefore, extend this power to the Board.

The assistance of the Board will be available to a soldier settler in selecting lands, in order to enable him to get the best value possible in land and to ensure that the land on which he may settle will be of such fertility as with the exercise of reasonable perseverance and skill will return a comfortable living for himself and family.

If the settler is to make good, either on an improved farm or a piece of raw land to the extent of making it pay for itself, he has to fit in with his surroundings. He and his family must be satisfied with the life. His capital, his physique and his preferences should fit his farm. Therefore, in order to start him right, Qualifications Boards, comprised of men who have practical knowledge of farming, are being inaugurated in the various provinces. Courses are being instituted at Agricultural Training Schools or Extension Schools, and the Minister of the Dominion. He will be assisted by this Board to locate suitably.

He has located, he will still be helped and supervised by the Board as to his initial expenditure, and efforts are being made to arrange with the Department of Agriculture of the Provincial Governments to give him definite direction during the early years of farming.

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The Full measure of honest market value is put into every genuine packet with the selling price on each.

This is the public safeguard.

"SALADA"

The Most Delicious— Beware of and Economical of all Teas Substitutes

no cover whatever.

It would have been impossible to cut the belt of concealing wire under several minutes, and also it would have had to be done in full view of the enemy. I decided not to shoot the sentry from this point as the fact that someone had been out and very close in daylight would have been given away. The sentry will be shot from a tree about 200 yards away at a more convenient hour. Returned by same route arriving in our own trenches again at 12:10 p.m.

1919—A peculiar combination of figures and LUCKY ONE for you if the Year 1919 sees you instal a REMINGTON Typewriter—in your office. A. Milne Fraser, Jas. A. Little, Mr. 37 Dock street, St. John, N. B.

NEW YEAR'S HONORS.

Among the New Year's honors conferred by His Majesty King George is one of special interest in St. John—the elevation of Lieutenant Colonel Henri R. V. Count de Barry and Borne to be a Commander of the Order of the British Empire. The family has been prominent here for years and the new Commander spent his boyhood here. His career in military life has been followed with interest by local friends, who have been proud of his success and will be greatly pleased at the new honor won. Mrs. Daniel Mullin, of St. John, is a sister.

WRIGLEY'S

Six reasons WHY it's a good friend:

- 1—Steadies nerves
- 2—Allays thirst
- 3—Aids appetite
- 4—Helps digestion
- 5—Keeps teeth clean
- 6—It's economical

Keep the soldiers and sailors supplied!

Sealed tight—Kept right

MADE IN CANADA

WRIGLEY'S SPEARMINT THE PERFECT GUM LASTS MINT LEAF FLAVOUR

WRIGLEY'S DOUBLEMINT CHEWING GUM PEPPERMINT

WRIGLEY'S JUICY FRUIT CHEWING GUM THE FLAVOUR LASTS

Chew it after every meal

The Flavour Lasts!

—By GEORGE McMANUS.

Stomachs Put in Order—Instantly!

No Indigestion, Gas or Heartburn

Lumps of pain—that's indigestion!

Belching sour food, acids and gases—that's dyspepsia.

Instant relief awaits you!

The moment Pape's Diapepsin reaches your sick, upset stomach all distress stops. No waiting—Stops at once!

Costs so little at drug stores.

Put an end to stomach misery!

UPSET? Pape's Diapepsin WILL PUT YOU ON YOUR FEET

BRINGING UP FATHER.

WELL, DID YOU SEE WHAT IT SAYS IN THE PAPER?

HOW COULD I—YOU'VE HAD IT ALL THE TIME!

JUST LOOK!

WHAT'S THE MATTER—DID THEY SPELL YOUR NAME WRONG IN THE SOCIETY NEWS?

A MAN ACTUALLY ASKED HIS WIFE FOR A DOLLAR!

WELL—A GOOD ONE IS WORTH IT!

SOMETIMES I THINK MAGGIE IS UNREASONABLE BUT MOST OF THE TIME I THINK SHE'S CRAZY.

BOYS & GIRLS

Clear Away Pimples and Dandruff with Cuticura

The Soap to Cleanse and Purify The Ointment to Soothe and Heal

These fragrant, super-creamy emollients stop itching, clear the skin of pimples, blotches, redness and dandruff, and the hands of chaps and sores. In purity, its great medicinal, refreshing fragrance, convenience and economy, Cuticura Soap and Ointment meet with the approval of the most discriminating. Ideal for every-day toilet uses.

For sample with full directions send card: "Cuticura, Dept. N, Boston, U.S.A." Sold by druggists everywhere.

KNOCKS OUT PAIN THE FIRST ROUND

Comforting relief from pain makes Sloan's the World's Liniment

This famous reliever of rheumatic pains, sprains, stiff joints, neuralgic pains, and most other external twinges that humanity suffers from, enjoys its great sales because it practically never fails to bring speedy, comforting relief. Always ready for use, it takes little time to penetrate without rubbing and produces results. Clean, refreshing. Made in Canada. At all drug stores. A large bottle means economy.

30c, 60c, \$1.20.

Let Nature Clear Your Blood

Dr. Wilson's HERBINE BITTERS

This splendid blood medicine—made of old-fashioned herbs—gives the system a regular "spring house-cleaning"—regulates liver and bowels—cleanses the blood of all poisonous matter—freshens up the nerves—and gives strength, vigor and a feeling of good cheer to the whole system.

In most stores. 25c, a better family size, five times as large, \$1.

The Braxley Drug Company, Limited St. John, N.B.

With pure, rich blood—a healthy system—and an active liver—you may laugh at disease, and you may have all three by taking

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MASS VAUDEVILLE

"The Woman in the Web"

EVENINGS 7.30 and 9 30c, 50c, 15c.

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Tale of the Country "OF DUSK"

g to a Right Heart.

MUSIC AND FUN For Wind-up of Holidays

3—The Engine of Terror

FOR MILLIONS"

rio Tenor on Forbes Robertson apt. McKenzie's Talk at 4 p.m.

Through the Hindenburg Line With Victorious Canadian AT 4 P.M.

nadian Club Auspices With Moving c. to Non-Members.

UNIQUE

THURS.—FRI.—SAT. Mat. 2 and 3.30; Evg. 7 and 8.30

A Variety Program

JIMMY DALE

Wolves of Kultur

CHAPLIN

In the Cure

6—Big Reels—6

RAVENS

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EVENINGS 7.30 and 9 30c, 50c, 15c.

You be the Judge

ert to about you pay for the tea

ns. or and quality of Lipton's the tea you have been

on.

ON'S

DIRECT FROM THE TEA GARDEN TO THE TEA-POT—

PETROGRAD IS NEAR STARVATION

London, Jan. 3.—(British Wireless Service).—Dissatisfaction and desperation in Petrograd, caused by the almost complete disappearance of the necessities of life, and the system of government in effect under Bolshevik rule, are so widespread that the populace is on the verge of an outbreak, according to a Danish business man who has lived in Russia for many years. The present system of government is creating general stagnation, and the misery in which the majority of the populace is living, has fostered dissatisfaction and desperation, which need only a spark to break into flames. He said "On all sides it is hoped that the Entente will be able to find means to supply Petrograd and save the population from starvation. During the day it is comparatively quiet in the streets, but, after dark, no one who does not belong to the ranks of the Red army, dares to go out."

With a Perfectly Satisfying Gamme

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