

LAND REGULATIONS IN CANADA

All public lands in the Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta are controlled and administered by the Dominion Government through the Department of the Interior. These are the lands that are disposed of as free homesteads, and are surveyed into square blocks, six miles long by six miles wide. Such blocks are called townships.

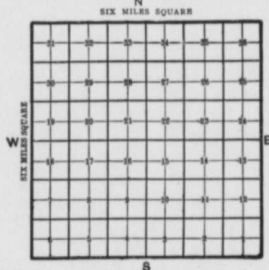
Each township is subdivided into 36 square blocks, called sections. A section is a mile square and contains 640 acres. The sections are numbered from one to thirty-six.

Each section is divided into four square blocks, called quarter-sections.

A quarter-section is half a mile square and contains 160 acres. It is the unit on which these lands are dealt with.

As a section is a square whose sides run east and west and north and south the four quarters which it contains are described, according to their location, as the northeast quarter, the northwest quarter, the southeast quarter, the southwest quarter.

THE FOLLOWING IS A PLAN OF A TOWNSHIP



Showing how the land is divided into square sections and square quarter-sections. Also showing how the sections in a township are numbered.

children of her own dependent upon her for support is permitted to make homestead entry as the sole head of a family.

Acquiring Homestead. To acquire a homestead an applicant must make entry in person, either at the Dominion Lands Office for the district in which the land applied for is situate, or at a sub-agency authorized to transact business in such district. At the time of entry a fee of \$10 must be paid. The certificate of entry which is then granted the applicant gives him authority to enter upon the land and maintain full possession of it as long as he complies with the homestead requirements.

Homesteads. Dominion Lands in these Provinces may be acquired in the form of homesteads of 160 acres (one quarter-section). A homestead is a grant made under certain conditions involving residence and improvements upon the land on the part of the homesteader. When such duties are completed a free patent for the land is issued to the homesteader.

Who Is Eligible. A homestead may be taken up by any person who is the sole head of a family or by any male eighteen years of age or over who is a British subject or who declares his intention to become a British subject.

A widow having minor

Residence. To earn patent for homestead, a person must reside in a habitable house upon the land for six months during each of three years. Such residence, however, need not be commenced before six months after the date on which entry for the land was secured.

Improvement Duties. Before being eligible to apply for patent, a homesteader must break (plough up) thirty acres of the homestead, of which twenty acres must be cropped. It is also required that a reasonable proportion of

this cultivation must be done during each homestead year. Before being eligible to apply for patent, the homesteader must have a house on the homestead worth at least \$300.

Application for Patent. When a homesteader has completed his residence and cultivation duties, he makes his application for patent before the Agent of Dominion Lands for the district in which the homestead is situate, or before a sub-agent authorized to deal with lands in such district. If the duties have been satisfactorily performed patent issues to the homesteader shortly after without any further action on his part and the land thus becomes his absolute property.

PLAN OF A SECTION

North West Quarter	North East Quarter
South West Quarter	South East Quarter

Showing how a section is divided into four quarter-sections.

Pre-emptions. In certain districts in Southern Alberta and Saskatchewan (see map on pages 6 and 7), an additional quarter-section (160 acres) may be purchased under certain residence and improvement conditions by a person who has secured a homestead but who has not previously obtained a pre-emption under any Dominion Lands Act. Usually entry for homestead and pre-emption is made at the same time.

Must Adjoin Homestead. The pre-empted land must adjoin the homestead or be separated therefrom by only a road allowance.

Entry. As in the case of homesteads, entry must be made in person before the Agent of Dominion Lands in whose district the land is situate, or before a sub-agent authorized to deal with lands in such district. An entry fee of \$10 must be paid at the time of entry. Only a person with a homestead entry may enter for a pre-emption.

Residence Duties. In addition to the six months' residence in each of three years required in connection with homestead, a person who has entered for both homestead and pre-emption must put in six months' residence in each of three other years to secure patent for both. This residence may be put in on either homestead or pre-emption and must be in a habitable house.

Improvement Duties. The cultivation required in connection with a homestead and pre-emption is eighty acres. This may be done on either the homestead or pre-emption or part of it on each. A reasonable proportion of such cultivation must be done each year.

Payment. Payment for a pre-emption must be made at the rate of \$3.00 per acre as follows:

One-third of the purchase price at the end of three years from date of entry. Balance in five equal annual installments with interest at 5 per cent at the end of each year from the date of the pre-emption entry.