

the St. John River Valley, is obtaining as many settlers as can be expected under present circumstances. Rich valleys in New Brunswick will grow first-class apples. There are hundreds of unoccupied farms which experts avow can be made to pay handsomely.

The Department of Agriculture has proved that New Brunswick can give first-class results to intelligent cultivators. There is a growing away from the idea that capital expenditure on public works is the royal road to prosperity, and an appreciation of the truth that well populated valleys are the only security for well developed cities.

It is recognized that scientific immigration is vital to the recreation of New Brunswick. The Provincial Government announced legislation during the session which opened on March 7. At Fredericton, Premier Fleming promised the first Provincial Immigration Congress ever held in Canada, to do full justice to the problem, concerning which the Congress, representative of every county in the province, had passed the following resolution:

'That the condition of our agricultural pursuits in this province requires the urgent attention of our provincial and federal government and settling the people on the land we heartily endorse a courageous and as a necessary means of regenerating our rural life policy of state advances or agricultural loans to farmers and other persons engaged in such pursuits. We further request the provincial government to take immediate steps to raise the necessary funds upon the credit of the province, either by arrangement with the Dominion Government for the use of the savings bank deposits or in such other manner as may be expedient.

'As a preliminary method of carrying out this project we recommend the creation of a Land Settlement Commission to manage the business side of the operations, to acquire, improve and sell vacant farms to natives or immigrants; and otherwise assist the better settlement of people upon the land until such time as a charter for an agricultural bank is obtained.'

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Mr. Matheson, the Premier of Prince Edward Island has given the most clearcut objective of an immigration policy. In 1901-1911 the population of the Island declined ten thousand—from 103,000 to 93,000. In the 'Garden of the Gulf' there are no abandoned farms—the diminished population cultivates its land less thoroughly. The land requires more intensive cultivation in smaller farms. A car ferry across the Northumberland Straits and the conversion of the 267 miles of Dominion Government railway from narrow gauge to broad gauge, will provide for more scientific marketing of farm products. Some of the labour brought in for the change, and for contemplated oyster

Immigration
Congress re-
quested land
settlement com-
mission and
agricultural
banks.

Premier says
the Island can
carry 400,000
people.