

agency alone sold saw-logs, poles, ties and bolts amounting to 28,174,787 feet b.m., worth probably \$380,000.

Then I ask you, with this splendid asset of the timber to the settler that he can turn into cash, is there any need for improved farms?

Then I want to point this out to the House,—if the settler wants an easily cleared farm, he can in different places near Matheson and along the line of the T. & N. O. where fire has run over it years ago and cleared it almost entirely, take up a farm that can be made ready for the plow to-day at \$5 an acre. If he wants something more, he can buy it from the settlers in that country who have done the work for him. Now, why does the settler want to sell? There are many reasons for that: sometimes ill-health, sometimes changed conditions, but what more often happens is that a settler anxious and willing to do pioneer work goes in and clears up a few acres, turns his timber into cash and sells his improvements at a fair profit, and moves on to a new place where with his increased capital he is better equipped for his work. But it may be that he wants even better improvements than that. Then he can go to the Northern Ontario Colonization Company, who are colonizing the Townships of Kendrey and Haggart, and he can buy an improved farm with a good house at a price which the Government finds fair and right. Or, if not satisfied with this, under our arrangement with the Abitibi Pulp and Paper Company they must expend at least \$50,000 in improved farms in their concession, and for that they do not get one cent of profit. They must sell the farms at exactly what it cost to do the work plus 6 per cent. on the money expended.

There is no great demand coming to us at the present time for improved farms, but if the day ever comes that there is a demand and a necessity in order to develop that country, for improved farms, these improved farms will be provided for, as every other need as demanded from time to time will be supplied.

Then, as to the question of loans. That, too, is a question that is receiving the consideration of the Government and on which there are different views. Mr. Englehart, of whom I spoke and who has given very great thought and consideration to that question, thinks it would not be an advantage to the settlers to