

SETTLER IS GUIDED IN FARM OPERATIONS

Board Throws Around Soldier
Farmer Every Safeguard to
Ensure His Success.

Guiding the soldier settler in his farm operations and rendering assistance in overcoming the difficulties incident to pioneer life, especially in the early days, are important features of the wide activities of the Soldier Settlement Board. This branch of government work—one of the important problems of reconstruction for which the present Prime Minister is particularly responsible—has created a feeling of lively satisfaction throughout the country. The Soldier Settlement Board not only lends money, but it throws around the borrower every safeguard that human ingenuity can devise to make it possible for him to repay. It is the aim of the Board to neglect no opportunity to ensure the success of the man settled under its plan.

While the Soldier Settlement Board assists in establishing a soldier farmer under the best conditions, the responsibility for success, of course, rests in large measure with the man himself. The selection of a farm home in his own particular care, but the Board endeavors to protect him as far as possible from failure by ensuring that his farm is good land, purchased at a price within the compass of his ability to repay, and to provide a competence for himself and his family.

Land Well Bought.

Many instances of most provident purchases put through by the Board for returned men are being reported. A Board Official at Calgary writes that on a recent tour of inspection he met with a settler for whom the Board purchased land at approximately \$25 per acre. The returned soldier has been offered \$65 per acre for his farm, which in itself would be splendid return on the money invested; but he refused the offer on the ground that he was well satisfied with his prospects. This same soldier farmer erected a picturesque little bungalow immediately adjacent to the station at Elnora, Alta. He did most of the work himself and the cost was \$500. The bungalow is said to be worth about \$1,500 and stands in the middle of an attractive garden of vegetables and fruits of about an acre. Another splendid example of a good purchase comes from the same office and refers to Geo. R. and F. W. Laycock, brothers, each of whom took up a quarter section under the Soldier Settlement Board at Browning, Sask., on May 1st of this year. They are combining their activities, that is, working together on the 320 acres, and they have incurred a total liability of about \$14,000. The land cost them \$30 an acre. They have been offered \$50 an acre, a splendid profit amounting to \$8,000, if they choose to sell; but they have prospects of a most abundant crop, estimated early in July to be worth \$17,000. They prefer to go on and find their fortune in what the soil yields.

Guiding the Settler.

Not only does the Board assist in getting the returned man well established on his land but it offers him the advantage of co-operation and guidance in all his operations. This is the system of supervision which has been inaugurated by the Board—a progressive step in agricultural development. Field Supervisors are constantly in touch with settlers, without unduly interfering with their operations. They advise and direct and offer encouragement where that is necessary. This guidance is welcomed by the men; in no case where a settler has been found to be sincere in his efforts to make a success of his operations has it been resented. Supervision carries with it numerous benefits. Possibly the settler needs advice as to seeding operations. He may be carrying too much stock; if so, Board officials will help him dispose of his surplus to advantage. They will help him in the purchase of his implements and the disposal of his produce.

The plan enables many soldier settlers located in the Western Provinces to come through last winter with a minimum loss of live stock. Civilian farms in Alberta are said to have lost from seven to eight per cent of their stock owing to lack of feed. Soldier Settlement Board Supervisors were early in touch with their settlers and were able to assist them to dispose of surplus live stock, or to procure feed, while other farmers, not so well situated, lost very heavily. So that in this one respect alone there was a tremendous saving in dollars to returned soldiers settled under the auspices of the government.

Early Adjustments Effected.

In some cases this close supervision and guidance has resulted in effecting adjustments which have been beneficial to the settler and to the Board. For instance, the Board is able to learn without loss of time whether the settler gives promise of success. There were 42 cases in one province, where it was necessary to effect adjustments and some of the causes given for the impending failures were: In six cases the soldier settler died; in ten there was domestic trouble; in thirteen the men had settled on free Dominion lands in districts where there had been successive crop failures and unusual weather conditions which discouraged them. Nine men failed because old wounds or illness caused by war service intervened. In all of these cases the Board assisted settlers or their dependents to sell out without great loss. It is the policy of the Board to advise an early adjustment, if the settler does not promise good results.

Improving Home Conditions.

In this connection it might be stated that the Home Branch gives special attention to the home conditions of the farm and is doing a splendid service in providing the dependents of returned soldiers with comforts and necessities in order to lighten their burdens and to encourage them in their work. A great many returned soldier settlers married overseas and

their wives are unacquainted with the conditions of our prairies. They need guidance and encouragement, especially during the winter, and instruction in the management of their farm homes. The Board, with the assistance of patriotic bodies, secured transportation to convenient towns for the wives and they were able to attend courses of instruction in home economics. The branch also furnishes these settlers with bulletins on such subjects as poultry raising, cooking, preserving of fruits, sewing, etc. It has secured the establishment of Red Cross Outposts in the sparsely settled areas of the North and West where capable nurses are available, and proper attention is given in maternity and other cases. In many such ways the Home Branch smooths the path of the settler's wife.

A boy (says a grumpy bachelor) is never so happy as when the family is moving and he can walk through the streets to his new house wearing a chair on his head. That is the only way most boys can sit on a chair.

ACCIDENT AT GRADE CROSSING KILLS TEN

When Motor Bus Was Struck
by Electric Train—Third
Accident at Same Place in
Six Weeks.

Camden, N. J., Aug. 23.—Ten persons are dead and five others badly injured as the result of the grade crossing accident in this city last night. Two of the victims died early today in hospitals.

A motor bus containing fifteen passengers was struck by a fast Pennsylvania electric train from Millville. The crossing has been the scene of three fatal accidents in six weeks.

STRIKE BY CANADIAN CAR CO. EMPLOYEES

Frowned Upon by the Trades
and Labor Council—Part of
Plant Shut Down.

Montreal, Aug. 23.—"A strong feeling of hostility is now apparent among the 5,000 workers of the Canadian Car and Foundry Company, who are at present out of employment on account of a small sectional strike by a few irresponsible boys," stated President Foster, of the Trades and Labor Council this morning. Mr. Foster went on to say that the company was making it very hard for him to retain a job or hold of the situation, and as few he cannot be held responsible if the workers take matters into their own hands.

pany is trying to break its contract with the men, and it is taking advantage of its employees," Mr. Foster said. "Such action as the company is now taking has a bad effect upon the men, and it encourages the insubordination to elected authority which the one big union is attempting to put over," Mr. Foster said.

The Canadian Car and Foundry Company shut down its plant here when 30 men engaged in the heading shops struck for more money in violation of an agreement between the Company and its employees which called for thirty days' notice of the cancellation of the contract.

The Cleveland Museum of Art is providing opportunities for children of special talent to take drawing lessons in the museum building. These children are selected from the large number who by arrangement with the schools make daily visits to the museum and are brought together in afternoon classes.

DIED.

McKENDRICK.—Died suddenly at his residence, Woodstock, Sunday evening, D. A. McKendrick, in his 73rd year. He leaves a widow, two sons and two daughters. Funeral notice later.

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