

APPENDIX No. 2

ture has now reached about \$650,000. The company are now supplying water to about 200 settlers, the majority of whom are experienced agriculturists.

In view of the increased area embraced by this scheme and by experiments made by this company, at their suggestion it was thought advisable to change the ratio of water from one cubic foot per second to the 100 acres, to one cubic foot per second to the 150 acres, economizing thereby a great quantity of water which may at a future date be used in irrigating land susceptible thereto.

This company may be said to be the pioneer of irrigation on a large scale in the North-west, for it was certainly not without a certain amount of risk that they undertook the task of carrying out a proposition of such magnitude, as it was thought that on account of the temperature in those parts being rather low although enhanced by irrigation, the growth of cereals and crops might be ruined by frosts before they could mature, and that, therefore, the aim and advantage which the construction of the works was meant to attain would thereby be nullified. Fortunately, however, since these works have begun to be operated, the fears expressed above have proved to be without foundation, and in consequence the Canadian North-west Irrigation Company have asked and received the necessary authorization to extend their works, so that now they are about to expend over \$1,000,000 to bring under irrigation at least 1,000,000 acres.

THE BOW RIVER IRRIGATION CANAL.

The success of this company has, to a great extent, been the means of deciding the Canadian Pacific Railway Company to undertake the construction of the Bow river irrigation canal, the practicability of which was proved by surveys made under the jurisdiction of the Dominion government, under the able supervision of Chief Engineer J. S. Dennis, whose valuable services have since been secured by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company to carry out the construction of these extensive works which will bring under irrigation at least 2,500,000 acres within the 3,000,000 acre tract. The cost of constructing these works is estimated by the company's engineer at \$4,000,000, and the amount of water granted from the Bow 13,000 cubic feet at high water stages, and 3,000 cubic feet per second at flood stages, 13,000 cubic feet at high water stages, and 3,000 cubic feet at low water. It is estimated that although only a little over 2,500,000 acres are susceptible to irrigation in this tract, the balance of the 3,000,000 acres will be so benefited by the distribution of water in that locality as to make the same suitable for settlement.

The plans filed by the company show that to carry out these works the construction of about 480 miles of canal and laterals will be necessary, and that to store the water granted at flood and high water stages, at least 15 reservoirs will have to be created.

By Mr. Ross (Ontario):

Q. Is there sufficient water to supply the irrigation there?

A. Yes, plenty, the companies having secured by the authorization above referred to, the full duty required to irrigate the same.

The authorization given to the company in connection with this scheme provides that the whole of these works shall be completed within 15 years from March 14, 1904, that is, by March 14, 1919.

SYSTEM OF DISPOSING OF WATER SUPPLY TO SETTLERS.

The system of disposing of the water by these companies to the settlers, is by agreements entered into on forms approved by the Commissioner of Public Works at Regina, and confirmed by the Minister of the Interior at Ottawa, copies of which have to be filed at Regina and in the Department of the Interior at Ottawa. The