

Many settlements in the Gatineau district have been abandoned, after millions of dollars of pine have been destroyed by fire. The pine gone and not one settler left.

The annual migration of Russian Polish laborers to Prussia is a case in point. It is calculated that 2,137,000 peasants insufficiently provided with arable land leave their homes in the central and northern provinces every year to seek work. Four hundred thousand persons are reported to be destitute and starving as a result of the crop failures in Finland this year, 1902. These facts emphasize the importance of settling our people on good land. The land not fit for agriculture should be devoted to forestry alone. It may not be practicable everywhere to absolutely separate the good from the bad lands. It frequently happens that the survey lines are drawn so that a considerable portion of the lot is covered with hills or mountains not fit for cultivation. In such cases a re-survey laying out the flat lands into farm lots of sufficient area might be made, and the rocky and hilly portion reserved for the growth of timber. The principle that good land only should be settled should not be departed from. No settlement should be allowed on land held under license as timber limits. When it is ascertained that land under license is favourable for settlement purposes, it should be taken out of the license in blocks sufficient for a township. The license holder should be duly notified to remove the merchantable timber and given ample time to perform the work, care being taken that the regulation as to size of cut is strictly observed. The lots should then be disposed of to settlers on a specified plan and the lots posed off continuously.

Under this system enough wood will remain to the settler for building purposes, and the hard wood and merchantable timber under the diameter limit of cut will remain as profit to the settler.

It is in the first and second year that the settler ex-