

a desire to better his condition there is food for thought in the above. Take the average wage-earner in the city, for instance. Suppose his earnings amount to \$500 a year. His house rent will amount to \$16 per month, and no decent house can be rented for much less, \$184 a year; electric lighting at \$2 a month, \$24 for one year; coal, 5 tons at \$8, \$40; provisions for an average family \$20 per month, \$240 a year. This makes a total of \$488, leaving the munificent sum of \$12, or \$1 a month, to clothe himself and family, provide for a little recreation, such as theatres and picnics, pay insurance, street car fare, possible doctor's bills, etc. It is not difficult to see why New Ontario appeals to the wage-earner.

### **Not All Sunshine.**

But if a man be making a comfortable living in other parts, he would, however, be doing himself and those depending upon him an injustice to throw up everything blindly and move to New Ontario without first looking it over and then asking himself if he can make the best of these opportunities. Too much thought cannot be put on this one point. A man may have ability to make good progress in an older settled district, but for him to go where conditions are as different as day and night, he may have disappointments at first. Then, again, for the man who has less at stake, the man who finds he cannot make ends meet, to New Ontario and a homestead farm is the answer. In any event a man with only ordinary business ability, in possession of good health and strength, there need be no fear as to his making progress. Thousands of others are doing it, and in the majority of cases the start was made under the most adverse conditions. No one need starve in New Ontario, and no one needs to be idle if he is able and willing to work.

### **Clearing the Land.**

The soil of New Ontario is for the most part a rich clay loam. It does not bake in summer after heavy rains, but remains in a friable condition all through the year. A deep covering of muck, the fertility of centuries of vegetation, covers all, and when mixed with the clay by cultivation makes an ideal combination for the production of big crops. In some sections the bush is heavier than others. There are large areas where fire at some time in the more recent past burned over it and apparently swept all vegetation before it, for nothing is to be found but second growth small trees which are easily cut. The writer formerly owned a farm in the clay belt, and the cost of the chopping, by contract, was \$15 per acre, and an additional \$10 for burning and logging and \$10 for clearing away the stumps. Where the timber is heavier, however, the money realized from the sale of pulp wood will make up for the extra work in clearing. It is generally reckoned that on pulp lands