

1st—The committee and various sub-committees have held numerous meetings and conferences with the Local Government and many individuals.

2nd—They addressed a circular letter (appendix A) to the reeves of municipalities in the Red River Valley, asking for a return of the amount of lands held by the municipalities and the terms on which they would be handed over to settlers, and if any encouragement in the way of exemption from taxes for a term would be offered to actual settlers. Answers from the following municipalities are attached to this report, viz.:

Kildonan, St. Pauls, St. Andrews, St. Clements, Springfield, St. Boniface, Macdonald, St. Laurent, Lufferin, St. Charles, Rosser, St. Francois Xavier.

From these returns it will be seen that plenty of land is held for sale by individuals in these municipalities at prices ranging say from one to ten dollars per acre, but no very large quantity is yet held by municipalities, as the result of tax sales. What there is, except in the case of Macdonald, will not be offered by municipalities free to actual settlers. There does not appear to be any desire on the part of municipalities to offer any inducements to settlers in the way of exemption from taxes for even a year or two.

3rd—The committee waited on the Provincial Government on several occasions regarding various matters in connection with the settlement of the Red River Valley lands, with the following results :

The Government will have a well boring apparatus at work this summer in Eastern Manitoba.

A new Drainage Act has been substituted for the one passed last year, and now, on request, the Government will send out an engineer to examine any lands for which the drainage is petitioned, and if that officer endorses the request, the Govern-