

the west. They would help to build up the country, make devoted citizens and soon acquire a competence. Let us give twice by giving quickly to the relief fund, but let us also do something that will permanently benefit our allies and at the same time strengthen Canada.—
Toronto World.

BACK TO THE LAND

Mr. Norman Lambert in the Toronto Globe of Sept. 26th stated : "A war in six weeks has brought the people of Western Canada to a realization of the true value of their country which ten years of progress and development could not impress upon them."

It is rather interesting now to find a policy of "back to the land" being championed on all sides in a country which has less than ten per cent. of agricultural areas under cultivation. During the past month every Board of Trade in the west that has a voice, has been discussing ways and means of placing the large number of unemployed people now burdening the towns and cities on the land, where they would be able to support themselves and in time become contributors to the food of the Dominion.

"**The Closer Community Settlement Plan**" has been launched by the Regina business men. The scheme provides for the securing of large tracts of land to be disposed of and furnished to the settler on long terms of payment and for the financing of the settler until such time as he would be in a position to keep himself.

Mr. W. . Swanson in the Canadian Courier March 8th, 1913, stated "It has been widely advocated that the farmers should be encouraged to form co-operative credit societies through Dominion legislation. This method has attained wide dimensions in France, Belgium, Italy, Austria and Germany."

But little is to be expected by the farmer in the west at present from any such organization. A relatively numerous population is essential for the functioning of such a bank.

It appears to be perfectly plain that the required help must come through government loans to farmers somewhat along the lines followed by Australia.

Aristotle said : "In order to live nobly we must first have the means to live."

RURAL SETTLEMENTS A NATIONAL SAFEGUARD

The following extracts are taken from the report of the Commis-