

There is a duty which our local governments must understand if they wish their administration to bear the mark of wisdom and judicious liberality. Poor settlers must be supplied with the means of providing for themselves and families during the first years of settlement. The territory is immense, and the rich soil needs but the hand of the tiller to lavish its gifts. But those who settle on the land must at least be given a chance of success. The beginnings only offer a few difficulties; the future is secure. But the co-operation of the authorities is essential to make this future a happy and prosperous one. What the settler needs is a generous advance, the payment of which shall be fully guaranteed. Instead of 50 cents per acre, let the Government charge an additional \$2 or \$2.50 per acre to the settler and advance to him a sum sufficient to enable him to build himself a house, to buy horses and agricultural implements and, as soon as the second year, have a prosperous home and be able to meet his obligations.

The development of foreign markets has long been recognized as a most important factor in the growth of population and wealth in modern countries. No purely agricultural people can hope to attain a high rank among nations and no industrial people has found it possible to avoid assiduous cultivation of the field of commerce in regard to outside markets. On the contrary, all the leading nations find it necessary to increase their efforts in this direction as manufactures develop and provide a profitable outlet for the industry of their people.

HAS RETURNED FROM TRIP TO COCHRANE AND THE DISTRICT.

Mr. P. H. Chabot, manager of the Ottawa Valley Immigration and Colonization Society, has just returned from a trip to Cochrane and the surrounding district with the special purpose of inspecting arable lands, so as to be in a position to acquaint those who are desirous of settling in that region with the advantages offered to city residents to whom life is a problem, to show these same advantages to whoever wishes to improve his social and economic condition.

After visiting the different townships, the manager states: The sub-soil is rich clay, covered by a black loam to the depth of several inches, and perfectly suited to the production of all kinds of grains and vegetables.

Cochrane, with a population of 2,500 inhabitants, is rapidly growing. Such is the energy of its citizens that although destroyed by fire four years ago, the village is now almost completely rebuilt. And considering the fertility of the soil of the land of the district this progress is not at all surprising.

The manager wishes to acknowledge the services of the following gentlemen who have kindly given him the necessary information: Mr. N. J. Way, superintendent of the Transcontinental Railway, Cochrane; Mr. H. A. Laird, district agent of this railway; Mr. S. J. Dempsey, agent of crown lands and local magistrate; Mr. Leandre Boivin, merchant and farmer; Mr. S. Leger, merchant and farmer; Rev. Mr. Larocque, parish priest of Cochrane; Mr. O. Thorning, editor of "The Clay Belt;" Mr. Bradley, editor of the "Northern Post," Cochrane.