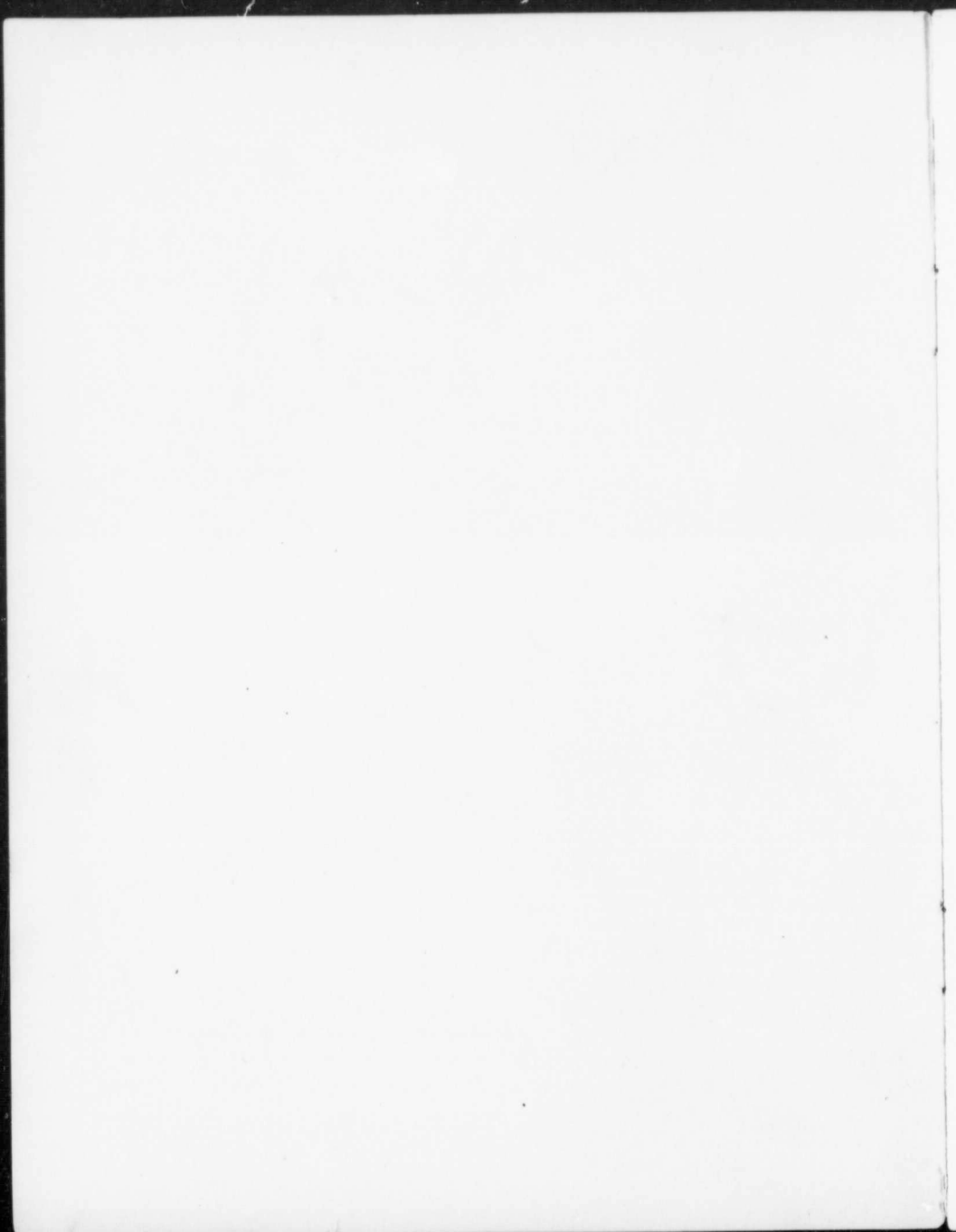


The
Algoma Central
&
Hudson Bay Ry.
Company



To the
Mails
Apr. 25 - 1901

Good ^{and} Cheap Canadian Farm Lands.

Algoma Central Railway Land Grant.



THE Sault Ste. Marie Section of the Province of Ontario invites the attention of the homeseeker to its timbered and partially cleared lands as a field for settlement. Bounded on the South and West by the Great Lakes system, traversed by The Algoma Central Railway, rich in forest and stream, with immense agricultural areas, a climate healthful beyond comparison, good local markets and opportunities for employment unexcelled elsewhere, this section is to-day by far the most attractive field for settlement to persons of small means.

Sault Ste. Marie, derives its name from the Rapids of St. Mary's River, on whose banks it is charmingly situated on the site of an ancient Indian village. The location is an ideal one, fronting on a River a mile in breadth, with a semi-circular range of green-clad hills for a background. Here the Canadian Government has constructed through St. Mary's Island on the North of the Rapids, the famous Canadian Sault Ship Canal, containing the longest locks in the world. The River has become the globe's greatest artery of commerce, its total tonnage very greatly exceeding that of the Suez Canal. Sault Ste. Marie owes its prosperfity to the operations of the various Companies controlled by The Consolidated Lake Superior Company, which include amongst other industries a Ferro-Nickel Plant, a Plant for the manufacture of Steel Rails, Ground Wood and Chemical Pulp Mills, Blast Furnaces, Reduction Works, Saw, Veneer and Shingle Mills, Ironworks, Brick Works, Car Shops, Mining, and a Steamship Line for the transportation of ore from the Mines to their Furnaces, etc. The joint operations of these allied industries afford employment to 10,000 men. Associated with these mammoth enterprises is The Algoma Central Railway,

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whose line now nearing completion, traverses the virgin forest for a distance of 235 miles and will shortly be extended to the shores of Hudson's Bay, on the Arctic Ocean. As already stated this section is favored with a climate that is healthful beyond comparison, diseases being rare and epidemics unheard of. The snow disappears rapidly in the Spring and the ground dries up quickly owing to the almost perfect system of natural drainage afforded by the Lakes and streams and the growing season at once sets in. Seeding is generally completed by the first week in May, one or two weeks later than in more Southern localities, but as a compensation the growth is much more rapid by reason of the warm days and cool nights and the precipitation from the countless lakes and rivers. The summers are delightful, for while the days are moderately warm the nights are invariably cool and dewy, and the autumn is long, dry and bright with an abundant sunshine. The winters are dry and steady with an entire freedom from damp, raw, penetrating winds, and the air crisp and full of ozone. Snow, which is so essential for the success of logging operations and easy communication in country districts makes its appearance about the middle of December and is sufficient in quantity to afford good sleighing until about the latter end of March. Algoma possesses an absolute immunity from winter rains. This section must not be confused with those portions of the United States to the South and West of it, with which it compares most favorably, enjoying an entire freedom from blizzards and other atmospheric disturbances so destructive to life and property. The country as a whole is somewhat broken, but the lands in the valleys are exceedingly fertile, ranging from a rich vegetable clay to a sandy loam, and being well sheltered by the surrounding ridges and well drained and watered by the numerous small lakes and streams are exceedingly well adapted to yield a prompt and generous return for any labor expended upon them. Nor is the broken character of the country such a disadvantage as would at first sight appear. The ridges both supply shelter from the winter winds and furnish the settler with free hill pasture for his cattle, and building material, firewood and fencing in abundance. Many a settler on the Western prairies would consider these compensating features as more than counterbalancing the disadvantages, taking into consideration the cash outlay which he has to make for the lumber necessary for his dwelling and farm buildings, to say nothing of the cost of his winter's fuel supply. In Old Ontario too the fuel question has been a most serious problem during the present winter with those farmers dependent on others for their firewood, whereas the settler on timbered lands profiting by the experience of the early colonists in Old Ontario can provide a permanent fuel reserve for himself and his children's children containing, as above stated, a pasturage that is free to his cattle for nearly seven months in the year. Is this not worthy of consideration when one-half the population of the United States is dependent upon wood for fuel? Then again the prairie farmer has to contend with a winter as long as and as severe and spend in enforced idleness the months during which nature holds his land snow bound. During the winter months the settler located on timbered lands on the contrary



AN ALGOMA FARM.

finds lucrative employment in the Camps or in converting the timber growth on his lot into cash. Or if enterprising he may the whole year round get out ties, telegraph and telephone poles, shingle bolts, charcoal, cord and pulpwood, saw logs and hardwood logs, suitable for veneers, on contract; anyone familiar with the axe need never be without remunerative employment during any season of the year. A mixed forest is in fact a most important addition to a farm, as it affords protection against insects, fires and winds, and gives the settler an additional crop part of which at least is always saleable no matter how the uses and demands fluctuate.

Readers of the daily papers must have noticed from the frequency with which such articles as "Back to the land" are published that the problem of city and town life for artisans, mechanics and tradesmen grows yearly more difficult on account of the keenness of competition and the constant improvements made in labor-saving machinery. The only solution offered for the overcrowding of our cities is "to get back to the land," but these writers do not state, as is the case, that land grows yearly more valuable and that little cheap land is now elsewhere to be had. It needs slight argument to convince anyone that no man gets rich while working for a wage: why work for others for a bare living when a competency can be gained by settling on the timbered lands of New Ontario. Consider, too, the absence of care and freedom of life, which is no where more healthful and enjoyable than in the woods, while every acre cleared is equivalent to so much money made and saved as surely as if it were placed in the Savings Bank, for with the ever increasing tide of immigration desirable land grows monthly more valuable and a well-cleared farm adjacent to good local markets is no mean legacy for one's children. But it may be asked if a man can only make a living while working for day wages where is the money to come from to purchase a farm, to build a house and provide farm implements, etc?

The answer is easy. The Company asks no cash down, but disposes of the land on easy terms by annual instalments, extending over a period of five years, and the money to meet these and sustain the settlers family meanwhile can be made from the proceeds of the timber cleared from the lot.

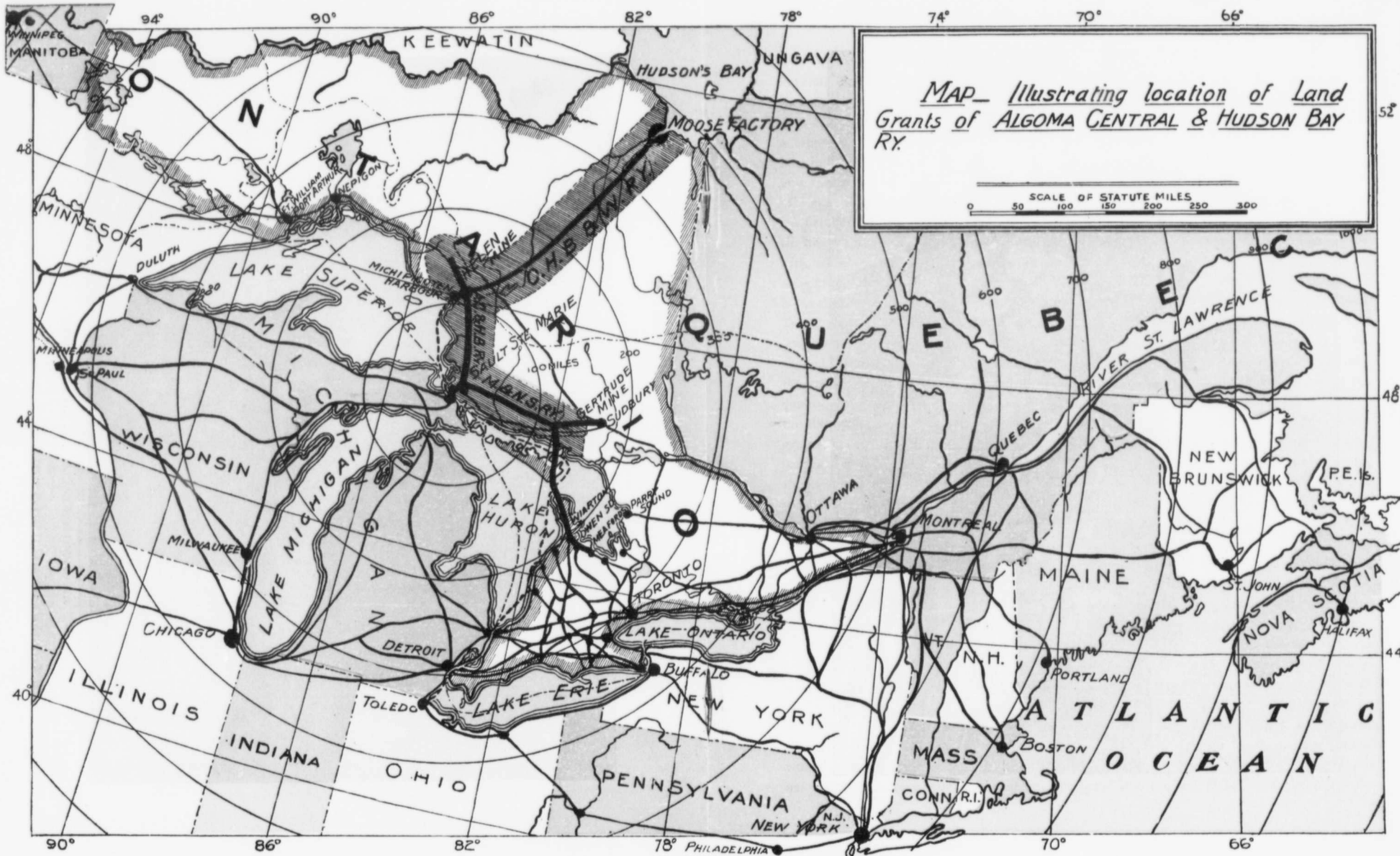
There is in fact no locality on the continent where a man can make a start on so little capital. This is essentially a worker's country and it has been said that the only qualities needed are physical strength, a determination to succeed, a willingness to do any sort of work, and a certain rough efficiency in the doing of it. Given these, and the most ordinary capacity will succeed. Without them even a high degree of skill in some particular direction may fail. While a small sum of ready money is desirable, all that is really necessary is sufficient money to purchase a few simple tools and a few weeks supplies to tide over the time until the scaler makes his monthly round, when a settlement can be obtained for the wood and logs ready for delivery.



AGRICULTURAL LAND — ON LINE COMPANY'S RAILWAY



MICHIPICOTEN FALLS — ON LINE COMPANY'S RAILWAY.



MAP Illustrating location of Land Grants of ALGOMA CENTRAL & HUDSON BAY RY.



52

48

44



ON COMPANY'S RAILWAY — LOGS ON CAR, 2½ FT. SQUARE.

So much for the advantages of a timbered lot to the man of small means. It will naturally next be asked what can be done with the land when cleared. It has been proved that wheat, barley, root crops and grass reach their highest development between the 40th and 55th degrees of latitude. The section here referred to lies midway between the 46th and 47th, a happy mean for the cultivation of crops and the development of a virile population. Wheat has, in fact been grown most successfully many hundred miles further North, and we should note that it was an exhibit of wheat weighing nearly 70 lbs. to the bushel grown on the shore of Lake Athabasca, nearly one thousand miles North of Sault Ste. Marie, which carried off the first prize at the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition. Oats grow luxuriantly throughout the district and have been known to yield as high as 50 bushels of the finest quality to the acre, while peas, too, do exceedingly well, and are wholly free from worms. While on the subject of grain, we must call attention to the fact that Silverwater, on the Manitoulin Island, holds the honor of winning the first and third prizes for wheat and oats in the Macdonald Seed Test Competition, recently finished, which extended over a period of three years, and was open to the whole of Canada, with the exception of British Columbia. It is, however, grasses, vegetables and wild fruits that here attain to a perfection not known in other sections. Potatoes, turnips and other root crops are a sure yield and grow to an immense size, while the quality, too, is excellent: in fact Algoma potatoes were awarded the medal and first prize at the Exhibition referred to; the hardier varieties of apples thrive throughout the section and grapes can also be grown. Many fruits such as raspberries, blueberries, cranberries, gooseberries, plums and grapes, grow wild, and market gardening has an exceedingly bright future, the local demand being steady and prices, which are at all times good, are especially so in the tourist season. The making of maple syrup and sugar should also be a profitable source of income for the settler, as these staples find a ready market with good prices and the high lands below the ridges usually display a dense growth of sugar maple trees.

So much for the products of the soil. Let us now turn to the other branches of farming which can be followed with advantage. As a field for dairying, sheep and cattle raising the Sault Ste. Marie section offers inducements unrivalled elsewhere. The best watered country in the world it is interlaced in every direction with a network of streams and sparkling lakes, the moisture from which, with the heavy dew for which Algoma is noted, causes nutritious grasses to grow in illimitable abundance over hundreds of thousands of acres. White clover is here abouts indigenous to the soil and the red variety appears so soon as a clearing has been made or the ground been burned over. Apart from its value as fodder, which needs no comment, the clover, is also useful to the settler in keeping down weeds, while it also increases the fertility of the soil and constitutes the District an excellent field for Bee Keepers. Settlers will find indeed, that there are great possibilities in the honey line in Algoma. This business has, as yet, been very little developed and with small attention will yield a nice addition to the



COMPANY'S PULP WOOD DRIVE — GOULAIS RIVER, WINTER 1901.

income from the farm. These facts prove conclusively that here is a field for those who wish to go into any branch of cattle, sheep or stock raising. Cattle, too, are nowhere more free from disease, the absence of cold rains, dust storms, etc., and the abundance everywhere of cold, pure water and sweet juicy grasses being strongly conducive to perfect health. Sheep, too, for these reasons quickly attain full growth. Being naturally adapted to the climate the quality of the mutton and wool is nowhere higher, it being generally conceded that animals raised on rough or broken ground invariably yield a superior quality of mutton. The Manitoulin and St. Joseph's Islands are, in fact, already famous as sheep raising sections. Sheep here require no attention except during the breeding season but pick up their own living even on the very roughest land.

Owing to the ever increasing numbers of mining, logging and construction camps, hog raising as a source of profit to the settler is perhaps almost equal to cattle raising, hogs requiring little shelter and doing most of their own foraging if left to their own devices. Poultry, too, are well worthy of consideration and can be made a most profitable feature of farming, eggs realizing as much as from 25c to 40c per dozen, during the winter months, while the local demand for fowls always exceeds the supply. Ducks and geese also do exceedingly well, while turkeys grow to an enormous size on account of the dryness of the air, the climate being most favorable for turkey raising.

The activity in lumbering along the lines of "The Algoma Central" makes this a most desirable location for the better class of choppers and lumber men wishing to take up land. Other sections are being gradually denuded by the axe, and the shantyman has therefore to go further and further afield in search of employment, while here it may be said that the industry is in its infancy, the forests being practically inexhaustible. Those preferring to follow mining can also secure steady employment at good wages in the iron, copper and nickel mines of the Companies.

Transportation from Quebec and the Lower Provinces is no small proportion of a seasons wages and many of the thoughtful are beginning to see the wisdom of making homes for themselves in a section where work that is most congenial to them is always abundant at as high a rate of wages as can be had in any other part of Canada. The transportation from Quebec and return for one man would, in fact, almost suffice to bring his entire family here, whose presence near the Camp would brighten his Sundays and occasional holidays and dispel the inevitable anxiety that must occasionally occur to all by reason of the non-arrival of letters and the fears for the health of those near and dear to each other. Special rates of transportation have been arranged for and will be provided upon signature of land application. This class of man is always welcome, for is not the lumberman after all a precursor of civilization. All honor to these hardy and merryhearted men, whose axe has blazed the path of Canadian progress. The presence of the railway, too, ensures easy communication and a daily mail, while medical



HELEN IRON ORE MINE — ON LINE OF ALGOMA CENTRAL RY.

attendance and supplies can be readily obtained from the villages springing up along its line. The railway in many other ways reduces to a minimum the hardships and discomforts borne by the early pioneers of Old Ontario and Quebec, who had to carry in on their backs, often for very many miles and along difficult trails, the very necessities of life.

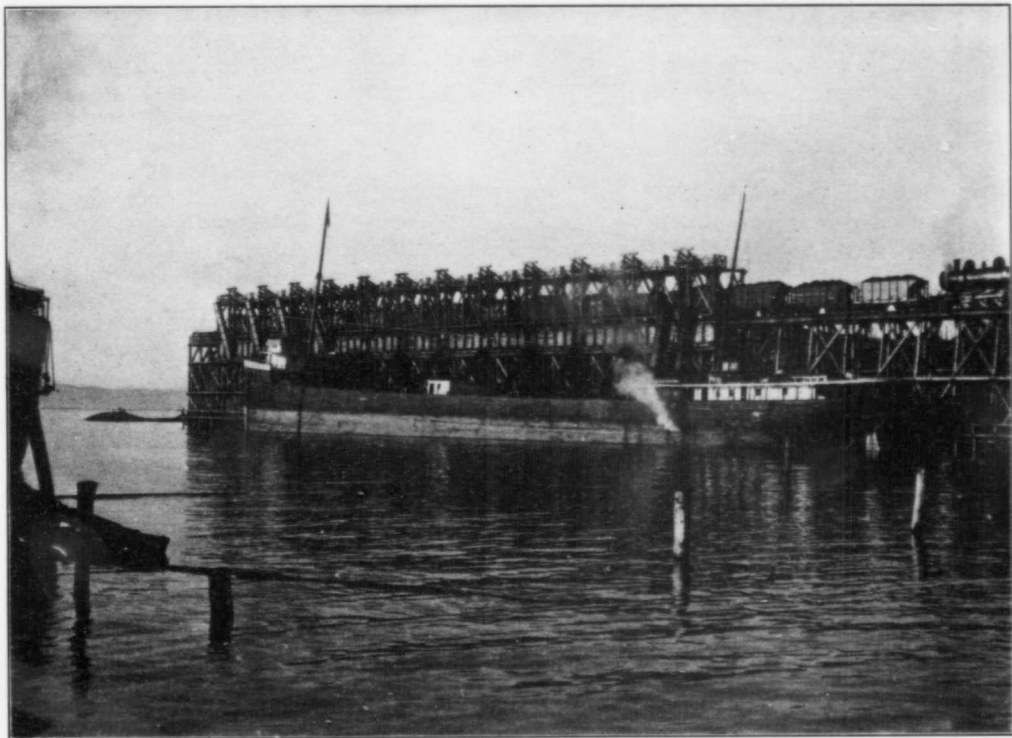
It is difficult to go fully into terms and settlement conditions in a pamphlet of this small size, but speaking generally, however, the Company is allowed by the Government to allot not more than 160 acres to individuals of 16 years of age or over, who shall build or have built for them on the lot a house 16 by 20 feet in size within one year from taking up land. Every settler's son of 16 years or over may also take up land, but need not build a house, providing he resides with his parents. Six months residence out of every year is all that is called for by the Government conditions. The Company, being desirous to discourage speculators who would tie up land, does not put the settler in immediate possession of the entire quantity taken up, but gives him possession of 40 acres to commence with, and will reserve as much as three additional 40 acre lots, which he can successively gain possession of on performing the clearing and settlement duties called for by their standing conditions. The Company will pay the settler for cutting all timber growing on settlers land.

Land Prices.

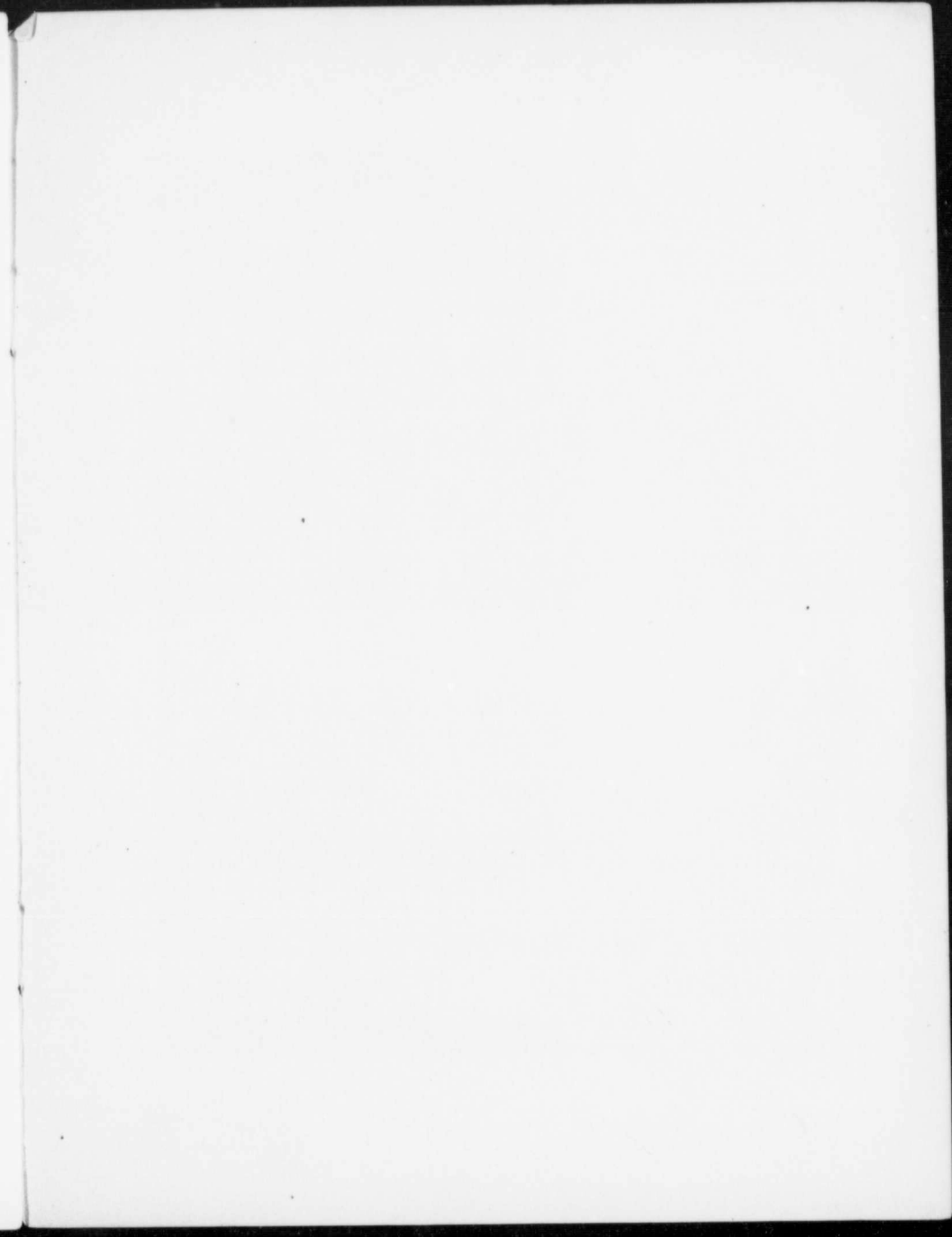
Soil, location, etc., and nearness to the railroad being all most important factors in determining land values, the Company has no fixed prices, but disposes of each lot by a valuation which will be made by the Land Agent. Prices, however, range from \$2.50 to \$5.00 per acre, no cash being required down, the purchase-money being payable in five equal annual instalments, which may, if the settler desires, be made in wood, for cutting which the company makes a month's cash settlement

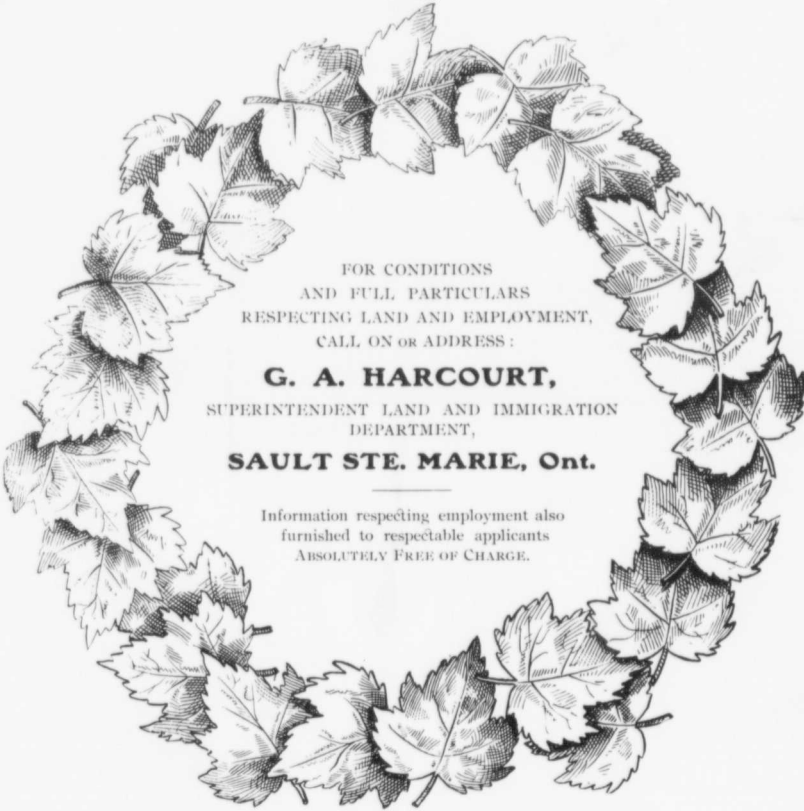
Full information and printed specifications of requirements and prices paid by the Company for saw and veneer logs, pulpwood, cordwood, charcoal wood, shingle butts, railroad ties, telephone and telegraph poles and other merchantable products of the forest may be had on application to any Camp Clerk or from G. A. Harcourt, Superintendent, Land and Immigration Department, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., who will send an Agent free of charge to personally escort homeseekers to the land.





IRON ORE DOCK MICHIPICOTEN





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AND FULL PARTICULARS
RESPECTING LAND AND EMPLOYMENT,
CALL ON OR ADDRESS :

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SUPERINTENDENT LAND AND IMMIGRATION
DEPARTMENT,
SAULT STE. MARIE, Ont.

Information respecting employment also
furnished to respectable applicants
ABSOLUTELY FREE OF CHARGE.