

methods heretofore adopted on this continent, but those best qualified to judge speak of the system adopted as calculated to establish irrigation enterprises upon a sound basis.

At the close of the season of 1900 there were 200 irrigation ditches and canals in operation in southern Alberta and western Assiniboia, with a length of 525 miles. These have a carrying capacity sufficient to irrigate 668,757 acres. This is an increase in the capacity of 307,137 acres in comparison to the year 1899. The results which have followed have been most encouraging. There is now no reason to doubt that through irrigation a large portion of Assiniboia and Alberta will be rendered fruitful every year, and the element of uncertainty caused by variations in the rainfall altogether eliminated from the calculations of those engaged in extensive agricultural operations.

The Deputy Minister of the Interior reports that the year 1900 was the second wet year in succession and that experience seems to indicate that there is a recurrence of wet and dry seasons in cycles of two wet and three dry.

The Provincial Crown Lands are situated within the limits of the several provinces, and are controlled by the respective governments, from whom particulars of transactions concerning them can always be obtained. Summaries of the regulations for the disposition of Dominion Lands, Provincial Lands and the lands belonging to the principal railway companies who have received land subsidies in Manitoba and the North-west Territories are given below.

LAND REGULATIONS.

Under the Dominion Lands Regulations, all surveyed even-numbered sections (excepting 8 and 26) in Manitoba and the North-west Territories, which have not been homesteaded, reserved to provide wood lots for settlers, or otherwise disposed of or reserved, are to be held exclusively for homesteads.

Homestead Entry for one quarter section (160 acres) of surveyed agricultural land, open to such entry, may be obtained by any person who is the sole head of a family, or by any male who has attained the age of eighteen years, on application to the local agent of Dominion Lands, and on payment of an office fee of \$10. For cancelled lands the office fee is \$15 and in some cases \$20.

The homesteader must perfect his entry by beginning actual residence on his homestead, and cultivation of a reasonable portion thereof, within six months from the date of entry, unless entry shall have been made on or after the first day of September, in which case residence need not commence until the first day of June following, and is required by the provisions of the Dominion Lands Act and the amendments thereto to perform the conditions connected therewith, under one of the following plans:—

(1) At least six months' residence upon and cultivation of the land during the term of three years.

(2) If the father (or the mother, if the father is deceased) of any person who is eligible to make a homestead entry under the provisions of this Act, resides upon a farm in the vicinity of the land entered for by such person