

PUBLIC LANDS

prescribed. The total area of the Crown lands in Nova Scotia is approximately 895,552 acres. All returned soldiers possessing the necessary qualifications who wish to go on the land will be given the benefits of the Act for the Encouragement of Settlement on Farm Lands. By means of this measure a loan will be granted to the settler of 80 p.c. of the appraised value of the property selected for him. A mortgage will be taken on the property purchased by the settler, and repayments arranged for on the amortization principle over a period of years.

The area of the Crown lands in New Brunswick is about 7,250,000 acres. Probably not more than one-quarter of this area is suitable for agriculture. Under the provisions of Acts of the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly, lots of 100 acres each may be granted to settlers of 18 years of age and over, subject to conditions which include the clearance and cultivation of ten acres, the building of a house, three years' residence on the lot and payments or labour in aid of the construction of roads and bridges. The Government of New Brunswick have commenced a survey with a view to the separation of agricultural lands from those suitable only for timber and to the opening up of homestead lands through which roads will be built, assisted by the province.

In the province of Quebec the area of public lands subdivided and unsold on June 30, 1915, was 7,022,254 acres. During the year ended June 30, 1916, 339,725 acres were surveyed; 103,658 acres reverted to the Crown; 207,380 acres were sold, the receipts, including arrears, being \$75,703; and 150 acres were granted free for religious purposes and for colonization roads. Adding to the acreage available at June 30, 1915, the areas surveyed and the areas that reverted and deducting sales and grants, there remained subdivided and unsold on June 30, 1916, 7,258,107 acres. The average price of the areas sold was about 36 cents per acre. Agricultural lands in 100 acre lots are available for settlement upon prescribed conditions in Timiskaming (3,500,000 acres) at the price of about 30 cents per acre, in Abitibi (3,000,000 acres) at the price of about 30 cents per acre and in Beauce (50,000 to 60,000 acres) at the price of from 30 to 40 cents per acre.

In Ontario the public lands which are open for disposal are chiefly situated in the districts of Muskoka, Parry Sound, Nipissing, Sudbury, Algoma, Timiskaming, Thunder Bay, Kenora and Rainy River, and in the counties of Haliburton, Peterborough, Hastings, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington and Renfrew. In northern Ontario, which comprises the territory lying north and west of the Ottawa and French rivers, the townships open for sale are subdivided into lots of 320 acres, or sections of 640 acres, and a half lot or quarter section of 160 acres is allowed to each applicant at the price of 50 cents per acre, payable one-fourth cash and the balance in three annual instalments with interest at six p.c. The applicant must be a male (or sole female) head of a family, or a single man over 18 years of age. The conditions of purchase include occupation by the purchaser within six months from date of purchase, the erection of a house, the clearance and cultivation of at least ten p.c. of the area and three years' residence. Proxy regulations enable an individual to purchase a half lot of 160 acres and place an agent in residence, but the duties to be performed before issue of patent