

industry was imminent. The question had become acute last year owing to the failure in the run of the Sockeye, and, in consequence, all parties on both sides of the international boundary were ready to arrange an agreement as to the measures to be taken to ward off the threatened danger. A special committee, under the chairmanship of Dr. Macallum, stated that the danger had been due, chiefly, to over-fishing with traps, seines and nets, so numerous that only a very small proportion of the fish ever reached the mouth of the Fraser river to spawn in its waters, and recommended that an agreement to limit this fishing should be made, in the form of a treaty, between the United States and Canada. The Council recommended that negotiations for such an international agreement be undertaken.

Forestry.—The forestry situation in Canada, especially in the East, is such that the exhaustion in the near future of forest resources cannot be regarded as a negligible prospect, and the measures necessary to meet this danger must be taken at the earliest moment. The Council has, therefore, to study this question as one which must be solved from the point of view of an annual yield to be permanently sustained, and in co-operation with the Director of the Forestry Branch of the Department of the Interior, Mr. R. H. Campbell has been and is now engaged on a complete forest survey on the Petewawa Reserve.

Research Inventory and Development in Canada.—In order to comply with paragraph (a) in the list of duties assigned by the original Order-in-Council, the Research Council endeavoured to make a survey of the present situation as regards scientific research and the equipment and man power for the same in Canada. To this end questionnaires were addressed to all the universities, technical institutions and societies and government departments and to several thousand industrial firms and organizations. The return of these questionnaires is not yet complete, but enough information has been gathered to demonstrate the grave situation in which Canada finds herself to-day as a result of lack of men trained for scientific and industrial research.¹

PUBLIC LANDS.

Dominion Lands.—The Crown lands of the Dominion of Canada are situated in the Prairie Provinces and in the Railway Belt of British Columbia. Of these lands large areas are offered in free grants as homesteads for settlers.² The lands are laid out in townships of 36 sections. Each section contains 640 acres and is divided into quarter sections of 160 acres. A quarter section of 160 acres may be obtained by a settler on payment of an entry fee of \$10 and fulfilment of certain conditions of residence and cultivation. To qualify for the issue of the patent for his homestead a settler must have resided upon his homestead for at least six months in each of three years, must have erected a habitable house thereon, must have

¹ For further details respecting the work of the Council, see the Report for the year ended March 31, 1918, of the Administrative Chairman.

² Copies of the detailed Regulations for the granting of free homesteads are obtainable from the Commissioner of Dominion Lands, Department of the Interior, Ottawa.