

## XII.—ADMINISTRATION.

This Administration section includes sub-sections on most of the important governmental activities which are not covered in the preceding sections. Commencing with a sub-section on the public lands of Canada, it continues with a treatment of public defence and a survey of the activities of the Dominion Department of Public Works. Next comes an article on the Indians of Canada and their relations with the Department of Indian Affairs; to this, statistical tables of Indian population, etc., are appended. The establishment and operation of the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment, including the Board of Pension Commissioners, is described in the following sub-section. The final sub-section, Miscellaneous Administration, includes several articles dealing with the Soldier Settlement Board, the Department of the Secretary of State (including tables of naturalizations in Canada from 1916 to 1922, and of companies incorporated since 1900), the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, judicial and penitentiary statistics and divorce in Canada, illustrated by statistics of the years from 1901 to 1924. It closes with a treatment of the civil service of Canada, with statistical tables of employees and salaries.

### I.—PUBLIC LANDS.

#### 1.—Dominion Public Lands.

The Crown lands of the Dominion of Canada are situated (a) in the Prairie Provinces (Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta), (b) in the belt of twenty miles on either side of the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, known as the Dominion Railway Belt of British Columbia, and (c) in a block in northern British Columbia, containing 3,500,000 acres, known as the "Peace River block." Every person who is the sole head of a family and every male who has attained the age of eighteen years and is a British subject, or declares his intention to become a British subject, is entitled to apply for entry for a homestead. 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 as a homestead 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, 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, and must have at least 30 acres of his holding broken, of which 20 acres must be cropped. A reasonable proportion of the cultivation should be performed in each of three years. A reduction may be made in the area of breaking where the land is difficult to cultivate on account of scrub or stone. Provision is made on certain conditions for residence in the vicinity, in which case the area of cultivation must be increased.

Lands in Saskatchewan and Alberta, south of township 16, are not open for homestead entry, but may be secured under grazing lease.

**Disposal of Dominion Lands in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.**—According to figures supplied by the Department of the Interior, a total of 127,575,882 acres, equal to 5,537 townships or 199,337 square miles, has been disposed of. The total number of acres within the surveyed area at Jan. 1, 1924, was 200,644,093, of which 27,015,300 were available for homestead entry. Table 1 shows the distribution of the surveyed area for each of the three Prairie Provinces as at Jan. 1,