

Timber-cutting rights are acquired by timber-sale. The applicant locates the timber, and, application being made, the area is cruised, surveyed if necessary, and advertised for sale by tender. All particulars are obtainable from the Forest Branch, Department of Lands. Information regarding water-rights for power, irrigation, etc., may be obtained by addressing the Water Rights Branch, Department of Lands.

The area of land administered by the province is 223,639,920 acres, of which 197,229,640 acres are vacant and unreserved; 6,488,137 acres are included in Indian, park, game, forest and other reserves, and 7,244,251 acres in timber, pulp, coal, grazing and other leases or licenses. The total area of surveys at Dec. 31, 1923, was 32,951,278 acres, including 22,775,315 acres of land surveys, 9,036,186 acres of timber, 659,848 acres of coal lands and 479,929 acres of mineral claims. The area included in cities is 56,390 acres and in district municipalities 892,360 acres.

The land area of the province is 226,186,240 acres, of which 92,800,000 acres is above timberline, and 91,432,100 acres is forested—39,352,000 acres carrying over 1,000 ft. per acre and 17,281,600 acres from 5,000 to 30,000 ft. per acre. The area suitable for agriculture is estimated at 22,608,000 acres. On Vancouver island, an area of 2,110,054 acres is included in the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Ry. land grant, embracing the south-eastern portion of the island, and applications for lands in this area are to be made to the land agent of that railway at Victoria.

II.—PUBLIC DEFENCE.

Before the outbreak of the war, the Canadian Militia consisted of a Permanent Force, which on Mar. 31, 1914, numbered 3,000 officers, non-commissioned officers and men, and an Active Militia, which at the same date numbered 5,615 officers and 68,991 non-commissioned officers and men. After the outbreak of the war on Aug. 4, 1914, successive contingents of troops of all arms were recruited, equipped, trained and despatched by the Canadian Government to Great Britain for active service. When hostilities ceased on Nov. 11, 1918, there had been sent overseas for active service in the Canadian Expeditionary Force about 418,000 officers, non-commissioned officers and men.¹

Organization.—Prior to 1922, three Departments of the Canadian Government were concerned with the defence of Canada, *viz.*:—the Department of Militia and Defence; the Department of Marine and Naval Service; the Air Board.

During the session of 1922, the National Defence Act was passed, consolidating the Naval Service, the Air Board and the Department of Militia and Defence into the Department of National Defence. This Act became effective by proclamation on Jan. 1, 1923. Under it there is a Minister of National Defence and a Deputy Minister of National Defence. To advise the Minister, there has been constituted, by Order in Council, a Defence Council, consisting of:—a president (the Minister), a vice-president (the Deputy Minister) and the following members:—the Chief of Staff, the Director of Naval Service, together with the Adjutant-General, the Quartermaster-General and the Director, Royal Canadian Air Force, as associate members. There is also a secretary of the Council.

¹For the detailed expenditures of the Canadian Government on account of war appropriations in the years 1915-1921, see the Canada Year Book, 1921, p. 798.