

larly attractive proposition to intending actual settlers. Railway shipping facilities are excellent, while graded roads are, generally speaking, close at hand and schools are within easy reach.

Intending settlers and others are afforded the choice of selecting from this unsold area lands suitable for grain growing, mixed farming or stock-raising. For the purpose of placing them within easy reach of all, very reasonable prices have been placed upon them. The province also possesses marsh lands that are particularly well adapted to muskrat farming, an industry that is now becoming very firmly established in Manitoba by reason of the very favourable climatic conditions and the abundant supply of the various roots and grasses upon which the muskrat thrives. The terms of sale are one-twentieth of the purchase price in cash, the balance being payable in 15 equal annual payments with interest at the rate of 6 p.c. per annum.¹

British Columbia.—In British Columbia there are large areas of free grant lands. Any British subject, being the head of a family, a widow, a *femme sole* who is over 18 years of age and self-supporting, a woman deserted by her husband or whose husband has not contributed to her support for 2 years, or a bachelor over 18 years of age; or any alien on making a declaration of his intention to become a British subject, may pre-empt, free, 160 acres of unoccupied and unreserved surveyed Crown lands, not being an Indian settlement and not carrying more than 8,000 feet per acre of milling timber west of, and 5,000 feet per acre east of the Cascade range. Fees payable include \$2 for recording, \$2 for certificate of improvement and \$10 for Crown grant. Residence and improvement conditions are imposed, and land can only be pre-empted for agricultural purposes. After occupation for 5 years and making improvements to the value of \$10 per acre, including clearing and cultivation of at least 5 acres, the pre-emptor may obtain certificate of improvement and Crown grant. The fact that an applicant has previously homesteaded in another province does not preclude him from pre-empting in British Columbia. Unsurveyed lands cannot be pre-empted.

Homesite leases of an area not exceeding 20 acres, surveyed or unsurveyed, may be obtained for occupation and cultivation—this being a provision to enable fishermen, miners or others to obtain homesites—at a small rental, under improvement conditions, including the building of a dwelling in the first year, title being procurable after 5 years' occupation and completion of survey.

Under the Land Act, vacant and unreserved Crown lands, surveyed or unsurveyed, may be purchased in quantities not exceeding 640 acres for agricultural purposes on improvement conditions. The Minister may require improvements to the value of \$5 per acre within 4 years of allowance of the sale, and Crown grant may be withheld until it is certified that improvements are made. The minimum price of first class (agricultural) lands is \$5 per acre; second class (grazing) lands \$2.50 per acre. The purchaser of surveyed land is charged an additional 50c. an acre for the survey; in the case of unsurveyed lands the applicant must have the area he applies for surveyed at his own cost.

Crown lands are leased, subject to covenants and agreements deemed advisable, for agricultural or industrial purposes—for hay-cutting up to 10 years; for other purposes, except timber-cutting, up to 21 years; for any industrial or other special purpose, with approval of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, for not over 99 years.

¹For further particulars apply to the Deputy Provincial Lands Commissioner, Parliament Buildings, Winnipeg.