

The Land Settlement Board has selected a number of land settlement areas contiguous to the Canadian National and Pacific Great Eastern Railways. Lands within these areas are sold on easy terms for farming purposes, conditional upon development, prices being usually from \$3 to \$10 an acre, a small cash payment being required and the balance spread over a term of years to suit the purchaser. British Columbia returned soldiers are entitled to abatement of \$500 on purchase price.

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 Railway Belt and Peace River Block were transferred to the Provincial Government on Aug. 1, 1930, so that the area of land administered by the province is now 238,483,200 acres,¹ of which about 14,945,400 acres have been alienated; about 12,350,000 acres are under reserve as timber, coal, grazing and other leases and licences; and about 16,700,000 in timber, park, Indian, game and other reserves. The total area surveyed at Dec. 31, 1931, was 33,522,973 acres, including 23,024,000 acres of land surveys, 9,179,620 acres of timber, 688,544 acres of coal lands, 28,548 acres of phosphate licences and 623,635 acres of mineral claims. The area included in cities is 73,950 acres, in district municipalities 906,753 acres, and in village municipalities 5,943 acres.

The area of the province is 238,483,200 acres,¹ 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. b.m. per acre and 17,281,600 acres from 5,000 to 30,000 ft. b.m. 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 Railway land grant, embracing the southeastern portion of the island, and applications for lands in this area should be made to the land agent of that railway at Victoria.

Section 2.—National Defence.²

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 dispatched 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.³

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 the Naval Service; the Air Board.

¹As estimated by the provincial authorities. The Dominion estimate of the area of British Columbia as shown on p. 7 of this volume is 227,747,200 acres, of which 3,766,400 acres are covered with water.

²Revised by H. W. Brown, Asst. Deputy Minister, Department of National Defence.

³For the detailed expenditures of the Canadian Government on account of war appropriations in the fiscal years 1915-21, see the Canada Year Book, 1921, p. 798.