

farms, were advanced £300 per family by the British Government and settled on Canadian farms under the direction of the Soldier Settlement Board. (See pp. 183 and 946-947 of the 1926 Year Book and pp. 7-8 of the Soldier Settlement Board Report for 1931.)

In 1927 a tripartite agreement was made between the Dominion Government, the Government of the Province of New Brunswick, and the United Kingdom Government, under which 500 British families were to be settled in the Province of New Brunswick; the Provincial Government to purchase the farms and the British Government to provide funds up to £300 per settler for establishment expenses. In more recent years the organization of the Board has taken care of applications of farmers for benefits under the Farmers' Creditors Arrangement Act, and the Supervision Staff of the Department has made land appraisals and reported on the applications of farmers under this legislation as well as under Soldier Settlement.

Under the Soldier Settlement Act of 1919, 25,001 soldier settlers were granted loans and established on the land. On Dec. 31, 1939, there were 8,646 soldier settlers and 6,071 civilian settlers who had taken over lands relinquished by former soldier settlers. At the end of 1939 the Soldier Settlement of Canada had 18,595 farm properties under administration, representing a net investment of \$40,410,050. There were 2,240 farms on hand, of which 1,958 were leased; 4,088 settlers had repaid their loans in full in cash, and 2,682 properties had been transferred to municipalities and provinces under Sect. 21A of the Soldier Settlement Act.

Under the 3,000 British Family Scheme, 3,346 families came forward for settlement. Of these, 1,837 had withdrawn as at Dec. 31, 1939, 31 had repaid their loans, leaving 1,478 families still operating their farms. Under the New Brunswick Family Settlement Agreement, 359 families came forward; of these three had repaid their loans, 196 had withdrawn, and 160 remained on the land.

The following numbers of settlers had applied for the benefits of the Farmers' Creditors Arrangement Act; 3,881 soldier settlers, 1,642 civilian settlers, and 1,666 British Family settlers. Of these applications, 2,225 cases of soldier settlers had been disposed of, involving indebtedness of \$8,686,115 and a reduction of \$3,355,930; civilians—988 cases disposed of, debt \$3,321,050, reduction \$1,245,683; British Family settlers—978 cases disposed of, indebtedness \$4,201,908, reduction \$1,988,226.

To Dec. 31, 1939, 13,709 land appraisals and reports had been made in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, and the Maritime Provinces.

Other investigational services conducted were: for the Department of Mines and Resources; in rural districts with respect to applications under the War Veteran's Allowance Act of 1930; for the Department of Pensions and National Health and the Canadian Pension Commission with respect to applications for relief allowances and special investigations of pension cases in rural districts; and for the Dependents' Allowance Board.

Section 7.—Department of the Secretary of State.*

The Department of the Secretary of State was constituted in its present form in 1873, through the merging of the previously existing offices of the Secretaries of State for Canada and for the provinces. The Secretary of State is the official mouthpiece of the Government as well as the medium of communication between the Dominion and Provincial Governments, all correspondence between the Governments being conducted by him with the Lieutenant-Governors. He is also the

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