

Section 6.—Soldier Settlement of Canada*

Under the Soldier Settlement Act of 1919, 25,001 soldier settlers were granted loans and established on the land. On Dec. 31, 1940, there were 8,029 soldier settlers and 6,203 civilian settlers who had taken over lands relinquished by former soldier settlers. At the end of 1940 the Soldier Settlement of Canada had 17,904 farm properties under administration, representing a net investment of \$31,958,201. There were 2,174 farms on hand, of which 1,601 were leased; 4,374 settlers had repaid their loans in full in cash, and 2,719 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 Of these 1,943 had withdrawn as at Dec. 31, 1940, 47 had repaid their loans, leaving 1,356 families still operating their farms. Under the New Brunswick Family Settlement Agreement, 359 families came forward; of these 7 had repaid their loans, 210 had withdrawn and 142 remained on the land.

The following numbers of settlers had applied for the benefits of the Farmers' Creditors Arrangement Act: 4,279 soldier settlers, 1,948 civilian settlers and 1,546 British and New Brunswick Family settlers. The disposal of these applications was as follows: soldier settlers, 3,884 cases involving indebtedness of \$12,172,972—a reduction of \$6,189,190; civilian cases, 1,777 with a debt of \$4,921,558—a reduction of \$2,404,175; British Family settlers, 1,487 cases involving indebtedness of \$7,683,042—a reduction of \$3,593,546.

The supervision staff of the Department has made land appraisals and reported on the applications of farmers (other than those under the Soldier Settlement of Canada) under the Farmers' Creditors Arrangement Act. To Dec. 31, 1940, 15,322 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, 609; in rural districts with respect to applications under the War Veterans' Allowance Act of 1930, 5,666; 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, 1,627; and for the Dependents' Allowance Board, 6,994.

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 custodian of the Great Seal of Canada and the Privy Seal, as well as being the channel by which the general public may approach the Crown.

The Secretary of State is also the Registrar General, registering all proclamations, commissions, licences, warrants, writs and other instruments issued under the Great Seal and the Privy Seal. He is further charged with the administration of the Boards of Trade Act, the Companies Act, the Canada Temperance Act, the

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