

some 1,600 miles. The eastern section is composed of 1,156,224 acres, of which 440,000 acres are to be irrigated. To do this a dam will be constructed containing 1,000,000 cubic yards. The sluices will permit of a discharge of 3,000 cubic feet of water per second. The mileage of the canals, distributing ditches, etc., for irrigating this eastern section will amount to about 3,500, and the estimated cost of the work is \$8,500,000. It is further intended to irrigate a central section. This section consists of 901,737 acres, and it is proposed to commence by irrigating 70,000 acres.

Settlers coming from Great Britain and European countries, particularly those of the better class, found it difficult because of their inexperience to take up farms in a new country, live in such habitations as could be hurriedly provided, and submit to the conditions that must necessarily attend the building up of a home in these circumstances. To overcome this difficulty a plan was devised for preparing and offering to settlers what have popularly become known as "ready-made farms." Up to the present time all of these have been established in Alberta, most of them in the irrigation block. An area of land, containing from eighty to one hundred and sixty acres, depending upon its location, is fenced, a modest but comfortable house and a stable are built upon it, about 25 p. c. of the land is prepared for crop, and this is offered to the settler at the price of the land plus the cost of the improvements, payable in annual instalments covering a period of from six to ten years. Thus the settler is enabled on arriving in the country to go directly to a comfortable home and to commence farming without any of the trials to which earlier settlers were necessarily subjected. The popularity of this plan is indicated by the fact that the demand for the farms is each year very much in excess of the supply. An experimental farm, manned by experts whose advice will always be at the service of the new-comers, has been established in connection with these farms.

Upon the western section of the new National Transcontinental Railway the total mileage of track laid by the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company to December 31 1910 was 1,469 made up as follows: main line, Winnipeg, Man., to Prairie Creek, Alta., 980 miles; main line, Prince Rupert to Copper River, B.C., 100 miles; Lake Superior Branch, Ont., 188 miles; Melville to Canora, Sask., 55 miles; Melville to Regina, Sask., 38 miles; Young towards Prince Albert, Sask., 25 miles; Tofield towards Calgary, Alta., 83 miles. The total number of miles in operation was 1,369, including the main line, Winnipeg, Man., to Edson, Alta., 922 miles; Lake Superior Branch, Ont., Fort William to Transcontinental Railway, 188 miles; Transcontinental Railway, Section F., Lake Superior Junction to Winnipeg, 259 miles. At the Prince Rupert terminus provision has been made for handling the traffic by the erection of