

PUBLIC LANDS.

Interior, a total area of 138,780,827 acres, equal to 6,023 townships, or 216,845 square miles, has been alienated from the Crown. The total number of acres surveyed to January 1, 1916, was 198,937,027 and of this area there remain for disposal 60,156,200 acres, of which 4,015,300 are under timber licenses, 5,049,400 under grazing leases, 25,615,500 under forest reserves and parks and 25,476,000 now available for homestead entry.

In addition to the surveyed area, there are large tracts of land in the northern parts of these three provinces which have, as yet, been explored only in a very partial way. The total area of this unsurveyed tract is 286,705,671 acres, of which 22,760,212 acres are water-covered. No estimate of the area suitable for agriculture can be made with any degree of accuracy.

Railway Lands.—Table 5 is a record for the three fiscal years 1913 to 1915 of the sales of lands by the Hudson's Bay Company and by railway companies having government land grants. The total sales in 1914-15 amounted to \$3,279,031 for 192,801 acres, as compared with \$7,398,191 for 501,575 acres in 1913-14.

5.—Land Sales by Railway Companies having Government Land Grants, and by the Hudson's Bay Company, in the fiscal years 1913-1915.

Companies.	1913.		1914.		1915.	
	Acres.	Amount.	Acres.	Amount.	Acres.	Amount.
		\$		\$		\$
Hudson's Bay Co.	53,581	1,128,806	26,292	572,837	16,400	306,550
Canadian Pacific Ry.	447,158	6,348,352	263,962	4,242,089	151,262	2,496,872
Manitoba Southwestern Colonization Ry.	2,768	48,639	7,626	91,948	489	5,508
Qu'Appelle, Long Lake and Saskatchewan Ry. & Steamboat Co.	15,395	255,399	1,629	21,546	1,292	19,118
Calgary and Edmonton Ry. Co.	4,155	44,212	19,575	460,129	23,042	444,018
Canadian Northern Ry. Co.	182,491	2,009,642	182,491	2,009,642	—	—
Great Northwest Central Ry. Co.	1,601	32,105	—	—	316	6,965
Total	707,149	9,867,155	501,575	7,398,191	192,801	3,279,031

Homestead Entries.—In 1915, the total number of ordinary homestead entries for lands of the Dominion Government was 17,532, as compared with 25,623 in 1914, 31,499 in 1913 and 35,538 in 1912. In 1915, 4,113 entries were made in Manitoba against 4,252 in 1914 and 2,998 in 1913; 6,349 in Saskatchewan against 9,752 in 1914 and 14,524 in 1913; 6,584 in Alberta against 10,722 in 1914 and 12,122 in 1913, and 486 in British Columbia against 847 in 1914 and 1,855 in 1913. The number of pre-emptions under the Dominion Lands Act was 2,210 in 1915 (1,648 in Saskatchewan and 562 in Alberta) against 3,262 in 1914