

EAGERNESS IN WEST TO SERVE THE EMPIRE

Foreign-born Citizens Are Keen to Enlist

HON. MR. ROGERS BACK

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navians—Wheat Acreage Great-
ly Increased—Record Ploughing.

(Special Despatch to The Globe.)

Ottawa, Nov. 8.—Hon. Robert Rogers, Minister of Public Works, who returned to the capital to-day after a fortnight in Winnipeg, brings back a glowing report of the patriotic feeling in western Canada and of the rush to enlist for active service. He declared this afternoon that two whole army divisions of 40,000 men could easily be enlisted in the Prairie Provinces within ten days if the militia authorities would say the word.

The foreign-born citizens of the west, he says, are almost all anxious to serve the Empire, and there is no occasion for alarm as to their attitude in the present crisis. Some of the foreign-born, particularly the Poles, are anxious to go to the front, and it is probable that an effort will be made to enable them to fight under the British flag for the cause of the allies. There are thousands of Poles and Scandinavians in the west who have had military training in their mother country, and Mr. Rogers believes that several good fighting corps could be raised among them.

Agricultural Conditions Good.

As to agricultural conditions in the west, the Minister reports that the wheat acreage has been greatly increased, and excellent weather has enabled the farmers to do a record amount of fall ploughing.

Where there were crop failures this year steps had been taken to look after all needy settlers, and an ample supply of seed would be furnished by the Government for next year's crop.

While in the west Mr. Rogers made further purchases of large quantities of oats for the British Government and these supplies are now being shipped.