

EXPERIMENTAL FARM IN NORTH ARRANGED BY PREMIER HEARST

Hon. Mr. Hearst Made Successful Representations at Ottawa.

MILITARY PRISONERS WILL CLEAR THE LAND

Farm Will be Located Near Hearst Without Any Expense to Province.

(C. P. Special to Sault Daily Star.)

Toronto, Dec. 11.—The establishment of a great Experimental Farm, the first step in the direction of opening up the great clay belt tributary to the Transcontinental for settlement by the Federal Government in active co-operation with the Province, has been assured, as the result of representations made at Ottawa by Hon. W. H. Hearst.

The Prime Minister returned from Ottawa yesterday, where he discussed the matter with the Federal authorities. The establishment of a farm in the clay belt has been under negotiation for some time, and the fact that the military authorities have on their hands some hundreds of interned Germans and Austrians made it possible to arrange a start upon the farm at the present time.

In order to get these men at work without delay, a representation of the Federal Department of Agriculture will confer at the Parliament buildings today with J. F. Whillson, the Ontario Government's Northern Development commissioner, with a view to selecting a site. This will probably be somewhere in the neighborhood of Hearst.

Prisoners will be put to work clearing the bush, and the first detachment will be sent from Kingston to the north country next week. More will follow from Port Arthur and other points later on.

"It will be noticed," said Hon. Mr. Hearst, in announcing the successful conclusion of his efforts to secure Federal assistance in opening up Northern Ontario, "that the work these prisoners will accomplish will be work that could not otherwise be undertaken, and that instead of being an unproductive charge upon the state they will be utilized to establish an experimental farm, which will give employment in the regular course of events to Canadians and increase the productiveness of this country. There can be no doubt that the establishment of this farm, and the carrying on of experimental work on a large scale in agriculture, will be a great aid in the development of this important undeveloped section of northern Ontario."

"It is needless to say," he added, "that this farm will be established without any expense to the Province."