

SETTLERS FOR CANADA.

Interesting Report of Department of Interior.

YUKON REVENUE.

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THE GRAIN COMMISSION.

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(Special Despatches to the Globe.)

Ottawa, Jan. 14.—Heretofore the annual report of the Department of Interior has given the results of the operation of each twelve months up to the close of the calendar year. After mature consideration the discontinuance of this system was decided upon, as it was found impossible, notwithstanding the most urgent efforts, to collect the necessary material for the compilation, printing and submission of the report within the time prescribed by Parliament. Therefore in the department's report, which was issued to-day, the returns have been brought down to the end of the last fiscal year only, but in most cases the figures are given for the whole of the fiscal year as compared with the previous one, so that any increase or decrease, as the case may be, in the general results obtained will be at once noticeable. In his remarks upon the general work of the department for the six months ending June 30 last, Mr. Smart, the Deputy Minister, opens by saying:—"I am glad to be in a position to state that according to the returns now submitted the work of the department generally has been very successful. Judging from the increased stream of desirable agriculturists which has been flowing into Manitoba and the Territories during the past three or four years it would seem that the hitherto unsolved problem of opening up promptly to settlement the vast areas of arable lands lying within the western districts no longer offers any ground for apprehension. It is gratifying to note that at a time when such a large proportion of the rural population of the grain-growing countries of Europe are abandoning the fields and moving towards the already congested centres such a growing interest should be taken in the advantages offered by western Canada as a suitable field for immigration. To some the immigration movement to this country may have appeared too slow in the past, but the growth of late has been a remarkably active and healthy one, and with the impetus given to immigration through the policy which has brought about the present results, there is every reason to believe that ere many years have elapsed Manitoba and the other Provinces which will eventually spring out of the present Territories will occupy the position, both as regards population and wealth, which their inexhaustible resources justly entitle them to.

Revenue of the Department.

The total revenue of the department for the past fiscal year ending June 30, 1900, as shown from the statements, amounted to \$1,750,761.76, being a net increase of \$105,802.66 over last year, which was the largest, with the exception of 1897-98, by nearly a million dollars over any year since 1837-38. The revenue from Dominion lands shows a decrease of \$50,585, but the receipts from school lands exceeded those of the previous year by \$173,625. With respect to the receipts on account of Dominion lands there has

been a falling off in the revenue derived from timber and mining fees, whereas there has been an increase of over \$75,000 in the amount collected on account of homestead entries, grazing fees and sales of land as compared with the previous year. This should be considered as very satisfactory, as it shows that while the success of mining and timber operations are to a great extent subject to fluctuations caused by increased activity or new discoveries in the mining fields, or through the insufficiency or overstocking of the lumber market, there has on the other hand been a gradual and substantial growth in the revenue derived from the settlement of the public lands, which must be taken as a clear indication of the development of the country.

The Yukon.

The Yukon is not losing any of its former activity, as evidenced by the fact that the total revenue derived from that source during the first three months of the present fiscal year has exceeded by \$204,768 the revenue collected during the corresponding period last year, as shown by the following table:—

	1899.	1900.	Inc.
July	\$ 95,151.03	\$246,573.80	\$151,422.77
Aug.	168,766.82	183,049.26	15,282.44
Sept.	112,490.04	140,393.40	27,903.36
	\$376,407.89	\$570,016.46	\$194,508.57
Scrp	10,259.98	10,259.98
	\$376,407.89	\$581,176.44	\$204,768.55

Homestead Entries.

There has been a substantial increase in the revenue derived at the various registry offices throughout the Territories. The total revenue for this source in 1895-96 amounted to \$10,210.74, and during the past fiscal year it had increased to \$22,239.84, which is a fair indication of growing activity in the transfer of real estate and in land transactions generally. There were 7,426 homestead entries made during the year, and 1,188,100 acres taken up during the last fiscal year, compared with 5,012 entries and 945,020 acres in 1898-99. The sales amounted to 30,739 acres, as against 44,131 in the previous year. With the exception of 1882, when 7,433 entries were granted, chiefly, as it subsequently proved to be, for speculative purposes, 3,730 entries having been cancelled during the same year, this year's record is the largest since the inception of the department in 1873. The indications are that the returns of the present calendar year will even exceed those for the past fiscal year. The percentage of cancelled entries during the years extending from 1882 to 1896 varied from 24 to 47 each year, whereas for the past six months it has fallen to 1 per cent., showing conclusively that persons who acquire the land to-day are bona fide agriculturists, who do so solely for the purpose of building up permanent homes for themselves and families, and who have the necessary means at their disposal to successfully carry out their object. The number of entries made by United States immigrants in 1899 was 618; in 1898 the number had been increased to 1,169, and during the first six months of the present calendar year no less than 941 farmers from the States have been granted entries, so that the number of these very desirable additions to our rural population has been increasing in a larger ratio than the arrivals from any other country. There is no doubt, according to present indications, that this current immigration will keep on increasing, and we may therefore look forward confidently in future to a fair share of the best class of farmers from the western States, who may rely upon leaving their present holdings in order to better their social condition by settling elsewhere. Of the homesteaders 2,647 were Canadians, as against 1,809 in the previous year. From Ontario came 1,537, as against 1,219 the year previous, and from Quebec 201, as compared with 106 in the preceding year. The land sales by railway companies having Government land grants, and by the Hudson Bay Company aggregated 648,379 acres and \$2,145,141 in amount, compared with 402,494 acres and \$1,520,792 in amount during the year previous.

Demand for Grain Lands.

The statement showing the total area of land disposed of by the various companies therein mentioned, as well as the gross amount derived from the sales, is, Mr. Smart says, certainly a very conclusive proof of the increased demand for farm lands in western Canada. The vast area of land disposed of in this way represents over 4,000 quarter sections. Allowing one settler for each quarter section disposed of, and one each for the 8,000 entries granted by the department, it gives, in round numbers, a total of 12,000 who have located on lands in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories during the past year; and allowing an average of four for each family, the total number of souls that have been added to the rural population might very fairly be estimated at 48,000, which would about agree with the statement of the Commissioner of Immigration at Winnipeg, to the effect that over 25,000 people registered at this office during the first six months of the present calendar year. Should this estimate, however, appear too optimistic, there can be no question that at least 10,000 settlers took up lands in the period mentioned, that is, allowing \$2,000 for three homestead entries and 2,000 for the 4,000 quarter sections sold by the companies. This, at four per family, would give a total of 40,000 souls, which is in itself a very remarkable showing, when it is borne in mind that a considerable proportion of the incoming immigrants hire out with farmers, or engage in the work of railway construction during the first year of their arrival and before selecting their holdings. A point is made by Mr. Smart of the fact that the settlers who have moved to Canada this year are of a very desirable class. The department impressed upon its agents the necessity of exercising the greatest care in the selection of persons who should be induced to come to this country, and further restrictive measures were in force to prevent the entry of undesirable arrivals.

Immigration Discussed.

The Deputy Minister, in discussing British and continental immigration, says:—"It is gratifying to note that, notwithstanding the prosperous conditions prevailing in Great Britain, as a result of the large number of reservists, volunteers and yeomanry who have gone to South Africa, and thus left room for the unemployed, the High Commissioner, Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, is able to report that we have had this year our usual immigration from the mother land, and that the advantages that Canada offers to desirable settlers are commanding increased interest. On the other hand, as pointed out by Mr. W. T. R. Preston, the General Continental Agent, while every effort should continue to be made to secure as large an Anglo-Saxon immigration as possible, it would not appear that we are likely to meet with as much success as might be desired in that direction, at least in so far as present prospects would indicate. This, of course, is attributed to the fact that the number of agriculturists in Great Britain is comparatively limited, and that as a result of the prosperous times prevailing at present a very limited number only could be found who would consider the advisability of abandoning their present holdings and trying to better their present condition by moving to Canada or elsewhere. Under the circumstances, as I suggested in my report last year, there would appear to be no doubt that Canada will have to look to Europe and Scandinavia for a share of the immigration from those countries, which is now being directed towards the United States and the South American Republics. It is therefore proposed to use every effort to induce, as many as possible of the

better class of these emigrants to move to this country, proper care being exercised, as in the past, to exclude all undesirable subjects. The results obtained so far in connection with this class of immigration, especially in respect to the Doukhobors, the Galicians and Scandinavians, have proved most satisfactory, and there is therefore every reason why the immigration of these or any other suitable settlers from the continent of Europe should be encouraged." Mr. Smart reports that the Doukhobors and Galicians already in the country have continued to make substantial progress towards permanent settlement and are altogether prosperous and content. He notes with satisfaction that both classes are rapidly adapting themselves to the manners of the country, especially in regard to the language, which is no doubt the first and most important step towards their becoming true Canadians.

The report contains a very interesting statement by Mr. Frank Peckley on immigration, which gives the immigrant arrivals from January 1 to June 30, 1900, as 23,895, made up as follows:—United States, 8,543; English and Welsh, 4,129; Scotch, 609; Irish, 313; Galicians, etc., 4,092; Germans, 370; Scandinavians, 711; French and Belgians, 233; miscellaneous nationalities, 3,776.

Lord Strathcona's Views.

The High Commissioner in his report says he anticipates the best results from the appointment of Mr. Preston as Inspector of Agents, and is sure that nothing but good can result from the constant intelligent supervision of the work of the different agencies which that gentleman is exercising. Lord Strathcona states that upon the whole the work this year has been more successful than he anticipated. The emigration returns show an increased movement in the direction of Canada, both of British subjects and of foreigners travelling by way of the United Kingdom to Canada. The High Commissioner points out that Canada has loomed largely in Imperial affairs this year. Its action with regard to preferential trade, the penny postage and the Pacific cable, the enthusiasm and loyalty of Canada and its contribution of men and money in the struggle that is taking place in South Africa have been the subject of frequent comment in the papers, and have much impressed the general public. In addition there is the excellent display of Canada's products and resources at the Paris Exhibition. Lord Strathcona is of opinion that the emigration work must be kept constantly going, both when immigration is indifferent and when it is good, as the money spent in attracting attention to Canada is useful in many ways, besides promoting emigration. He recommends a couple of additional agents, one with headquarters in the west of England and the other in the Midlands.

Senate Chaplain.

There is a probability that the office of chaplain to the Senate, rendered vacant by Dean Lauder's death, will be abolished. Prior to the appointment of the late incumbent there was an unseemly scramble for the office, which is worth \$500 a year, and it was said then by some prominent members of the Senate that in order to avail a repetition of such proceedings the office would not be continued after Mr. Lauder's death. Now the clerical wire-pulling is again going on, and some clergymen have ventured so far as to canvass Ministers for the office. A chaplain is really not necessary in the Senate, and there is no reason why the Speaker should not read the prayers, the same as is done in the House. It is hinted that several members of the Government would like to see the office done away with.

Grain Commission.

The Grain Inspection Commission, it is now settled, will meet about the 22nd inst. Lord Strathcona cables to-day that the Secretary of the Liverpool Corn Trade Association desires to be present and will sail from Liverpool in the Oceanic on the 16th inst. The officials of the Ireland Revenue Department here are agreed that some change is absolutely necessary. They think that the Government must either control the inspection and have an expert to advise the department or else the inspection act should be applied only to the inland transportation trade. The latter party would leave the business in the hands of firms whose thorough knowledge of the wants of the trade and reputation for honorable conduct would be such that their own imprimatur could be done by European buyers as a superior guarantee to any official inspectorship.

A Report From Norway.

C. E. Sontum, Commercial Agent for Canada in Norway, in a report to the Minister of Trade and Commerce, dated December 27, speaks of the shortage of lumber for export, and the advance in the price of mechanical wood pulp in that country, caused by the drought during the summer and fall. At the close of the year prospects for mechanical pulp were excellent, the more so as a more or less severe water scarcity is certain during the coming winter also. The Norwegian production of cellulose for 1900 was mostly disposed of before the commencement of the year at high prices. The rise in the cost of logs, coal and working expenses generally had, however, to a certain extent reduced the makers' anticipated profit. The prospects there this season were considered by makers as most satisfactory. In the period from 1890 to 1893 the production of dry and moist pulp in Norway amounted to 1,121,903 tons, of which 650,843 tons went to Great Britain and Ireland. Dr. Dewar, an eminent botanist, desires to make experiments with Canadian seeds in different latitudes in Norway. In return he is willing to forward the best quality of Norwegian grain seed for experiments in Canada.

A Coal Contract.

An Associated Press despatch has been sent out which represents that the Dominion Government has closed a contract at Pittsburg for 100,000 tons of coal. An order was given by the Department of Railways and Canals but for 50,000, and not 100,000, under the following circumstances:—When the strike of the miners in the Nova Scotia collieries was threatened a week or so ago the department found itself face to face with the possibility of having its supplies cut off. The matter looked serious, and it was uncertain how long the strike, if one took place, would last. If the Department of Railways had to depend upon the Nova Scotia collieries the result might eventually be that the Government system of railways would be paralyzed. Thereupon a rush order was sent off for 50,000 tons of coal.

Notes.

Prof. Stone Wiggins says he is developing electric currents so as to produce a wireless telephone. He will not say much about the matter until he has obtained patent rights. He says the discovery will enable ships to talk to each other though separated by long distances at sea. It will also do away with the necessity for wires or railways, which, he says, causes drought. Wiggins says that Marconi has appropriated his ideas in regard to wireless telegraphy, as embodied in an essay which Wiggins wrote for the Smithsonian Institute. In the essay Wiggins laid down the theory that electricity entered mountains and all other elevations, and Marconi adopted the idea, and by tests demonstrated the practicability of wireless telegraphy. Hon. Frank Latchford, Ontario Minister of Fisheries, had a conference with Sir Louis Davies this morning in regard to matters at issue between the two Governments with respect to the fisheries.

The High Commissioner forwards the following from London: A London firm

asks to be placed in communication with Nova Scotia dealers in and shippers of salted and dried codfish, packed in drums of 125 pounds each.

The names of the leading salt manufacturers or large shippers of salt are asked for by a Canadian correspondent.

Inquiry is made for names of importers of maple wood rollers by a Canadian firm engaged in the manufacture of these articles.

A large oil painting of Dr. MacCabe, Principal of the Normal School, presented to the Institution by the Ontario Department of Education, was unveiled this afternoon. The artist was Mr. Sherwood of Toronto.

The appointment of a successor to the late Dean Lauder rests with the Bishop of Ottawa. The appointment will not be made for some weeks.

The Ottawa & New York Railway Company, having completed its line to the capital and established car shops here, asks for the payment of the promised bonus of \$75,000.

It has been decided to hold the Dominion convention to discuss the question of tuberculosis in Ottawa on February 14.

It is rumored that Mr. T. Cote of Montreal will be appointed French Census Commissioner.

General O'Grady-Haly has heard nothing of the report that recruiting for the South African Contingent has been postponed. He is continuing his preparation for the enrolment of recruits in Canada.

Ottawa City Council to-night decided to ask the Dominion Government for a grant of \$10,000, in addition to the appropriation of \$60,000 yearly given to the Improvement Commission for the beautifying of the capital. The former sum is wanted to help meet an overdraft of \$21,000 from last year, and \$35,000 interest and sinking fund on debentures, for which provision cannot be made out of the estimated revenue for the year.