

CLEARING THOUSANDS OF ACRES IN NORTH

Hon. Mr. Hanna Tells of Work of Department in Present Crisis

PRISONERS GIVE HELP

Provincial Secretary Tells of One Who Left to go to War

The Provincial Secretary's Department is leading the way in the proposals to clear the land and add to the acreage of foodstuffs grown in Ontario this year in response to the demand from Great Britain and Europe for food. Hon. W. J. Hanna, speaking yesterday to the Men's Bible Class of the Methodist Broadway Tabernacle, said that his department had undertaken to clear 32,000 acres about 22 miles southwest of Sudbury for cultivation. It was proposed, he said, to build a great camp and proceed with the work commenced by the prisoners last fall to clear the land for cultivation. The Government, he said, proposed within two weeks to open the camp to men out of work. They could join the staff and could make an honest living there and have at the end of three months some money with which they could either purchase land for a home or use in other ways which appealed to them. Seven hundred acres of this land has already been cleared and placed under crop.

The prisoners on the Guelph Farm and in other institutions throughout the Province have shown a great interest in the war and are anxious to do their part to assist the Empire. Already \$3,000 worth of wool has been purchased for use in the public institutions and is being knit into clothing for the soldiers. In all 7,000 inmates of various institutions, one half of them women, are occupied in patriotic work.

Victoria Cross Winner.

Hon. Mr. Hanna enlivened his talk with many stories of the unfortunates. One of the most interesting stories concerned one of the "boys," as Mr. Hanna calls them, at the Industrial Farm at Guelph. This man made a personal appeal to Mr. Hanna to be allowed to go to the war. When he told his story it was learned that he was a British sailor who had won the Victoria Cross. His story was verified and the British Admiralty was only too ready to have him return, so he went home. He took part in the naval battle of a week ago.

In conclusion Hon. Mr. Hanna said that the Guelph Farm was ready to supply Toronto and Hamilton with 1,000 pounds of milk every day for the use of the school children who might have to go to school hungry. He only asked co-operation of the municipalities in providing bread and eatables.