

PROVIDING HOMES FOR RETURNED SOLDIERS

Secretary Lane of Interior Department Would Settle Unused Lands With Returned Soldiers.

Secretary Lane, of the interior department, always a booster for the west, has presented to the president and to congress recently a comprehensive plan for a preliminary study of the unused lands of the country, with particular reference to the irrigation of some 15,000,000 acres of arid land, the drainage of between 70,000,000 and 80,000,000 acres of swamp land, and the clearing of approximately 200,000,000 acres of out-crover or logged-off land, with the purpose in view of reclaiming these lands thru governmental agency and providing homes for returned soldiers.

Secretary Lane is now asking congress for an appropriation of \$1,000,000 to be used in the same work, in which he should have the support of those of us in the west who know what this would mean to this part of the country and he has sent the following letter to Hon. Swager Sherley, chairman of the committee on appropriations, of the house of representatives, calling attention to constructive legislation along the same lines already enacted by the legislative bodies of our allies:

"My Dear Mr. Sherley: I wish to express my appreciation of the action of your committee in appropriating \$200,000 for the preliminary study of the unused lands of the country with the purpose in view of providing homes for returned soldiers. Since your action the president has approved a recommendation for an appropriation of \$1,000,000 to be used in the same work. I am proposing to organize this work in the hope that the larger amount will be available soon after the new session of congress opens. In this connection I submit a brief outline of the efforts made in other countries along somewhat similar lines.

United Kingdom.—Legislation has been enacted by parliament enabling the board of agriculture and fisheries to acquire land for a small number of experimental holdings for returning men in England and Wales. The measure provides for small farms not exceeding 50 acres, to be of three different types, mixed farming, dairying and market gardening. Men without previous farming experience are to be given preliminary training on a demonstration farm, under the supervision of a director, receiving a fair living wage. When they are considered capable of taking up a holding for themselves it will be allotted.

Canada.—A free grant of 160 acres is made to the returning soldier and the board is empowered to grant a loan of not exceeding \$2,000 to each man; to be spent in erecting a house, purchasing implements and stock and generally in preparing the land. This generally in preparing the land. This homestead. It will be advanced at a low rate of interest (5%) and will have to be repaid in 15 years. Applicants for lands or loans must have had previous farming experience. Intending settlers among returning soldiers without previous farming experience can go upon demonstration farms for training. Employment at current wages will be paid.

Ontario.—The government grants free to ex-service men 160 acres of land. Loans of \$500, bearing interest at 6 per cent and repayable within 10 years can be secured from the government. Training is provided men with no agricultural experience.

British Columbia.—Provides for the settlement of ex-service men, including the widows of men who have come under the act. The lands are to be granted free. In addition ex-service men can obtain on payment of about \$10 a pre-emption claim to land, the area and residence requirements to be fixed by regulation, which is to be free of all taxes except for educational purposes.

New Brunswick.—An act was passed authorizing the provincial government to develop a scheme for the settlement of men who have served in the present war. Settlements are to accommodate from 100 to 250 families and a demonstration farm is to be established to provide implements and information.

Australia.—The board is now working on plans for advancing money to soldier settlers.

New South Wales.—Areas of crown land and resumed private lands have been set aside for the settlement of returned Australian soldiers.

Victoria.—Legislation indicating the policy of the government has been introduced into the state parliament. In cases of soldiers from active service no payments for the first three years. In addition, advances will be made by the state government up to 70 per cent of the value of improvements with a maximum of about \$2,500. Previous agricultural experience is required before taking experience is required before taking up land.

Queensland.—An act provides facilities not only for the settlement of ex-service men of the commonwealth, but extends it also to men of the united kingdom and its allies. No rent is required during the first three years. The lease will contain provisions for making improvements up to a sum not exceeding about \$1,000. Advances to that amount can be secured from the government saving bank, repayable by installments extending over 40 years.

South Australia.—The state government has set aside two large blocks of lands and liberal advances and conditions will be given returning soldiers.

Western Australia.—A reservation of land has been made by the government for the returning soldiers. Settlement on 160 acres, subject only to survey fees, is provided. Loans can be secured from the State agricultural bank.

Tasmania.—An act provides for the sale or lease to returning men of the Australian forces and those from the united kingdom, up to 200 acres. A sum of money up to \$1,500 may be advanced for improvements, implements and stock. No rate of interest or taxes will be payable by returning men.

New Zealand.—Provisions are made for the setting apart of areas of land for selection by discharged soldiers and facilities are given whereby holdings may be acquired on easy terms.

Union of South Africa.—It is understood that the union government is working on a plan for settlement for a limited number of ex-service men with special qualifications for land development.

France.—On April 9, 1918, President Poincare signed a law providing for the acquisition of small rural properties by soldier and civilian victims of the war. It provides in part for "individual mortgage loans to facilitate acquisition, parceling out, transformation and reconstitution of small rural properties of which the value does not exceed 10,000 francs." The loans are to be made from the agricultural lending societies at a rate of 1 per cent, with a term of twenty-five years. Advances for improvements are provided for, and a special commission is appointed to administer the law.

Since a large part of the soldiers of France are landowners, it is evident that the problem of the demobilization of the armies at the end of the war will be a simple one. The French soldiers will simply return to their farm homes.

This outline of the plans of other nations for their returning soldiers indicates that much thought and work has been given in these countries toward the solution of this problem. Of course I realize that these policies are made to fit the conditions and conduct of each particular part, whether it be nation or state. And I do not mean to imply that we can model our plans or policies along those lines. But I do believe that this knowledge points out one lesson that has much good in it. That is this, that the preparation of plans for providing opportunity for our returning soldiers can not be left to the day when the war is over. Cordially yours,

FRANKLIN K. LANE.

NEBRASKA METHODIST ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Yearly Assembly Of One Of Largest Conferences In Methodism Closed This Week Monday

Formerly there were four annual conferences of the Methodist Episcopal church in Nebraska as follows: Nebraska, North Nebraska, West Nebraska and Northwest Nebraska. A few years ago, the first three were consolidated into the Nebraska conference, giving this conference almost if not quite, the largest membership of any in the church.

The fifth annual session since the consolidation was held at University Place, Lincoln's beautiful suburb which is the seat of the Nebraska Wesleyan University, being in session nearly a week and closing on Monday of this week. Bishop Matthew S. Hughes presided.

Several unusual features were found in the list of appointments this year. Three new districts superintendents were appointed by the Methodist bishop. The new men for these places are C. Cissel of Beatrice, A. O. Hinson of Holdrege and J. G. Shick of Ord.

The three districts superintendents to leave the district work are U. B. Brown who has been on the Omaha district, J. M. Bohwell who has been on the Grand Island district and Geo. W. Esham of the Kearney district. Rev. Brown will take up pastoral work at the Hastings church. He has been on the Omaha district four years, Rev. R. Bothwell, who has completed his sixth year of work on the Grand Island district will go to David City. Rev. Mr. Esham, who has been located for four years in charge of the Kearney district, was given a special appointment and will be executive secretary of the Omaha area of the centenary movement.

Little Change in Lincoln Churches.—Little change was made in the personnel of the Lincoln pastors. Drs. Gratz, Tompkins and Clemens will return to their former churches. Dr. C. W. McCaskill will return to the University Place church. Rev. A. L. Umpleby, who has been for the past year at Havelock, has been transferred to Ulysses and W. C. Kelley of Sargent will take his place. R. N. Throckmorton, formerly at Millford will take charge of the Normal church.

For the first time the list of appointments carries a special war ser-

vice roll. Twenty-one members are listed in this connection. Three preachers are in the enlisted service and eighteen men are with the army and navy as chaplains. The "to be supplied" pastorates are a little more numerous.

The centenary committee reported and accepted the annual allotment to Nebraska of \$338,438 to be raised for the cause. The appointment of Dr. G. W. Isham as executive secretary of the Omaha area for campaign purposes was approved.

The temperance committee of the annual conference had the distinction of bringing in the shortest report of the session. This committee which on previous years had produced lengthy articles merely stated this session that "John Barleycorn was on the run and we urged all preachers to accelerate his movements."

The committee on education reported that the Nebraska Wesleyan University had completed another year without going beyond its income. The plan of conducting a campaign for the sum of \$45,000 with which to endow a chair of religion at the university was approved and pastors were urged to have their pastorates subscribe towards the purchase of a fourth liberty loan bond and donate the bond to the fund. The committee predicted that the next campaign following the centenary would be a drive for endowment for educational purposes.

N. A. Martin read a report on the work of the Nebraska Methodist hospital at Omaha.

LETS HIRED HELP GO DOES WORK HERSELF

Mrs. Tobolt Astonished at Results of Tanlac — Gains Twenty Pounds.

"Some wonderful things happen in this world and the way Tanlac has restored my health and built me up is one of them," said Mrs. Paul Tobolt, of 916 California avenue, Butte, Mont., in one of the most interesting and remarkable statements yet published in connection with the Master Medicine.

"My trouble started about two years ago," she continued "and I have simply been a nervous wreck ever since until now. Last January I went to the hospital where I was told that my whole system had become poisoned by an affected appendix, that an operation was my only hope and it was doubtful if this would save. So I arranged to have my children cared for, in case I should not see them again, and submitted to the operation. Well, the operation was done with much skill, and I was so carefully nursed that I finally got of the hospital, and was home with my husband and children again. Then I picked up wonderfully for a little more than a month when I began having terrible pains in my back over my kidneys. My appetite left me and nothing tasted right. I was constipated, had fearful headaches, and was so nervous I could hardly sleep. I fell off until I weighed less than a hundred pounds and was so weak that it was an effort for me to get about at all.

"Finally my husband suggested that I try Tanlac, as it was being so much talked about, and the results have astonished us both. I couldn't see much improvement on my first bottle, but with the second my appetite got better, I commenced to feel improved and was surprised when I got on the scales, to find that I had gone up to one hundred and eight pounds. Well, the third bottle did wonders for me, relieving me of all pain and headache and making me want to eat up everything. I now weigh one hundred and eighteen pounds—making a gain of more than twenty pounds on three bottles—and wondering what my fourth bottle which I have just started taking, will do for me. I sleep like a healthy child, never waking at night at all and feel like I could eat five or six meals a day. I dismissed my hired help, four weeks ago, after eighteen months steady service, and since then I have done all my own housework, cooking and everything. I have no more dull, drowsy bad feelings and life is a pleasure to me. I can't praise Tanlac enough for what it has done for me."

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