

Adams, professor of irrigation investigations and practice; R. L. Adams, professor of farm management; E. W. Braun, specialist in agricultural extension; B. H. Crocheron, director of agricultural extension; H. E. Erdman, professor of agricultural economics; L. W. Fluharty, specialist in agricultural extension; Walter Mulford, professor of forestry; S. W. Shear, assistant agricultural economist; E. C. Voorhies, associate professor of agricultural economics; David Weeks, associate professor of agricultural economics; H. R. Wellman, specialist in agricultural extension; C. H. West, assistant agricultural economist, and F. R. Wilcox, specialist in agricultural extension.

All papers dealing with agricultural economics emanating from members of the staff or graduate students or assistants working under their direction will be given a serial number and will appear as contributions of the Giannini Foundation, regardless of where they are published.

THE SETTLEMENT OF THE UNDEVELOPED AREAS OF CANADA

THE American Geographical Society has issued a statement in regard to its plan of conducting a scientific study of the settlement of undeveloped areas of Canada and later of other regions of the world which it has undertaken to finance. In order to deal with the many problems that affect agriculture, settlement and immigration it is expected that the investigations will extend over three or four years.

While the study is under the general supervision of a committee of the society, a Canadian committee headed by Dr. W. A. Mackintosh, professor of political and economic science, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, has been formed and the work has already been started. The initial research will be confined to the prairie provinces, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

It is planned to appraise the natural resources of the pioneer regions, to study methods of settlement with a view to avoiding the waste of life and capital that has characterized pioneer settlement in the past, and to trace the successive stages of utilization of natural resources and the effects on economic and social institutions.

On May 24 and 25 a group of scholars from Canada and the United States met in Ottawa to discuss these plans, and it was generally agreed that this major problem of settlement had so far received relatively little adequate systematic and intensive study.

The Canadian situation was considered to be the most important, at least for the time being. Into some of the undeveloped sections of the Dominion a flood of settlers has been steering, while other districts

have been left practically waste. Some social and racial groups are pushing back the frontier; others are being drawn into the cities. Various reasons were attributed. It was suggested that only inferior land remained for the newcomers, or that it was more economical to improve the utilization of the lands now occupied than to pioneer the new regions. It was contended also that the pioneer spirit was dying out; that it had passed in the Anglo-Saxon while it remained in the French-Canadian; that men and women were no longer willing to accept the hardships of frontier life.

For some time a survey of this problem, first outlined by Dr. Isaiah Bowman, director of the American Geographical Society of New York, engaged the attention of committees of the National Research Council, the Social Science Research Council, the American Geographical Society and a number of Canadian scholars, who conferred with the representatives of the other bodies.

The following compose the committee of the American Geographical Society:

Dr. Frederick Merk, professor of history, Harvard University, *chairman*.

Dr. O. E. Baker, senior agricultural economist, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Duncan McArthur, professor of history, Queen's University.

Dr. W. J. Rutherford, dean of the school of agriculture, University of Saskatchewan.

Dr. Kimball Young, professor of sociology, University of Wisconsin.

W. L. G. Joerg, American Geographical Society, *secretary*.

Associated with Dr. Mackintosh on the committee to study the Canadian phase are:

Dean W. J. Rutherford, *chairman*.

Professor D. A. McArthur, *vice-chairman*.

Professor Chester Martin, University of Toronto.

Professor D. A. MacGibbon, University of Alberta.

Professor C. A. Dawson, McGill University, Montreal.

Professor R. W. Murchie, University of Manitoba.

This committee plans to cooperate with the Dominion and provincial governments, the universities of western Canada and with individual investigators to avoid duplication and to facilitate the work.

THE CORNELL CENTER FOR RESEARCH IN BIOPHYSICS

THE General Education Board has given to Cornell University the sum of \$1,500,000 for assistance in the development of a graduate center of scientific research in the border fields between the biological and physical sciences. The gift is conditional upon the