

that we have nothing to fear from the deep development of our gold mines. Such factors give us confidence that the undeveloped state of our gold deposits is not due to the quality and amount of ore. We have, therefore, reason to place a value on our gold fields of the Hastings district, Wabigoon, Michipicoten, Thunder Bay and Rainy River, as promising to be important assets in the future. Then there are the placer deposits which stretch for many miles along the Vermilion River, and those of Sturgeon Lake which cover a large area. Under more favorable conditions some at least of these areas should be worked at a profit.

*Silver.*—In the district surrounding the head of Lake Superior we have had one great silver mine, and a group of others which have produced a considerable amount of the metal. Five hundred miles to the west of this, across a region much of which is difficult of access, and practically unexplored, very promising silver deposits have recently been discovered. Is it not reasonable to conclude that the great intervening region, over a large part of which similar rocks occur, probably contains numerous undiscovered deposits?

*Platinum.*—The metal platinum, which is frequently associated with the noble metals, gold and silver, in nature, is found in the Sudbury ores. Unfortunately the most promising deposit of this metal yet discovered has lain dormant since its discovery for 15 years or more, owing to differences among shareholders—a cause which is primarily responsible for the undeveloped state of other important ore bodies in this province.

*Iron, Nickel, Cobalt.*—The areas occupied by rocks which give promise of containing workable iron deposits occupy a greater extent of territory than those in which there are fairly definite indications of any other metal. Neglecting for present consideration the older explored areas in southeastern Ontario, the iron range formations which surround the Ontario side of Lake Superior and extend westward towards Manitoba, and eastward to the Quebec boundary, have an aggregate length of several hundred miles. As many parts of these ranges possess characteristics similar to those in the Lake Superior region of the United States it must be admitted that this