

the science to which you are devoting your lives. Calcium carbide, a product of the electrical furnaces of two years ago, was not a commercial commodity, because it could not be produced at a price which would permit of its use as an illuminating material in competition with ordinary electric lighting, or with ordinary gas. That was the condition of that industry when it first attracted our attention. We secured the services of some people very practical in your science, and chemists to afford necessary chemical assistance, and began not only a scientific but a practical test of what could be accomplished in the electric furnace in the production of calcium carbide. The result of a year or fourteen months' operation was the invention of a furnace by our electrical engineer, who will read a paper to you during some session of your convention, and this process has resulted in the reduction of the cost of calcium carbide nearly 200 per cent. The result of those experiments has been the organization of a company called the Union Carbide Company, which has effected a combination of all the calcium carbide interests of this continent, capital \$3,000,000, and a contract between our company and the Calcium Carbide Company has been made for a period of twenty-five years, for the use of 20,000 horse-power and additional from our canal.

While we began in the electrical industry here in the development of new electrical processes, only two or three years ago, we have already accomplished this much, that we are under contract to deliver 40,000 horse-power for electrical uses, all to be supplied within two years. We have already developed on the Canadian side 20,000 horse-power and are about to undertake the construction of another canal on the Canadian side to produce 50,000 horse-power.

It is the fall of twenty feet from Lake Superior to Lake Huron that has created the existing enterprises here, and which gives us such great hope for the future industrial prosperity of this region.

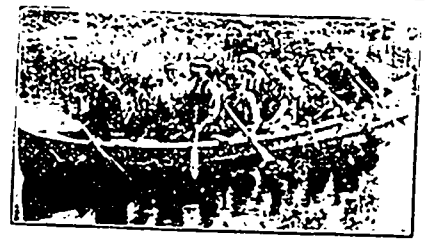
The Ontario Wind, Engine and Pump Co., Toronto, have lately shipped some large tanks—five 55,000 gals. each to the N. W. T. for the C.P.R., and one 40,000 gals. to Montreal.

No less than seven expeditions are now in Labrador, drawn to that inhospitable coast by the magic word, gold. Five of these have been organized in Halifax, one in Boston and the seventh has just started out from St. John's, Newfoundland. It will be known as the Labrador and Newfoundland Exploration Company, and there are eleven persons in the party, the leader being A. White, who was for many years manager of the Little Bay Copper Mine in Notre Dame Bay, Newfoundland. He has as his assistant E. R. Burgess, who knows the whole Labrador coast, having

spent many years there as a collector of customs. They purpose to explore the country from Battle Harbor to Cape Mugford, a distance of about 700 miles, and to ascend the principal rivers, such as Eagle River, Sandwich Bay and the Northwest River, where Sir Donald Smith, now Lord Strathcona, spent several years in the service of the Hudson Bay Company. It is not known that gold exists in any quantities, but specimens of ore have been brought out of the country which are regarded as very promising.

A recent visitor tells the Maritime Merchant that Rhodes, Curry & Co., of Amherst, are busily engaged in erecting a large hotel 500 feet long by about 120 feet wide for the accommodation of workmen and others who will be required in the future development of a Nova Scotia mine. A number of cottages are also being built by the same firm. The informant further tells that the coal mine at that point, so far as opened, is ahead of any working in Cape Breton. The quality of the coal is excellent and the available blocks of working ground ample. There is a seam of clear coal 6½ feet, with a perfect roof and floor to support it.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Co. are building a number of baggage cars which are not provided with either platforms or hoods. This reduces the weight about one and one-half tons, and does not rob them of any decided advantage in construction.



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