and I had always heard it was a wilderness, with a few people left here and there to take care of it."

It is needless to say that a smile went round the party. We thought of Canada as being anything but a wilderness.

"How did you get this far into Ontario without seeing anything of it, anyway ?"

" Came in the night."

"That accounts for it. You will have a different opinion of it before you have been in it very long."

"Have you got any towns, anyway ?"

"Yes," responded the commercial man, "we have, they are good business places too. Of course our Canadian cities cannot compare in size with some of the American cities, but for their population the business they do compares favorably with those of any other country. They have this advantage, also, that the foundations of trade are solid. What is known as mushroom growth is heard of but little. We Canadians are quite like the English in this way. We do not regard a business as a business until it is solvent."

"But why don't you go ahead then ?"

"Well there are various reasons for that," said the lecturer. "Some contend that the present political policy is the cause. This may or may not be the reason. At all events, I believe with a well known politician, 'we have, without doubt, one of the finest countries in the world."

"Yes," said the lumberman, "I believe that is true. Lots of people, along with our friend here, don't believe it, and why? Just because they don't know. Now I was surprised myself. I was called away a year ago on a business trip up through our northern districts. Before this I had no idea of Ontario's natural resources. The natural wealth seems unlimited. Take, for instance, timber—thousands of square miles of it untouched. We have little idea either of the mineral wealth. Nearly all the minerals of value are found in paying quantities. There is any amount of farming,land up there too. The Ontario Government has, I believe, lately started an Experimental Station in that district."

"This is true also," added the architect, " of every province in the Dominion; down by the sea, in Quebec, the North-west,