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REVIEW.

Official returns indicate a pronounced improvement in industrial conditions. The demand for labor became active in April and has continued to grow. In the Northwest Provinces seeding was completed at least three weeks earlier than was possible last year. Everywhere, east and west, the weather conditions appear to give promise of good crops. Orchards are flourishing, trade is being pushed on a large scale, and a general tone of optimism prevails.

Directly and indirectly this favorable state of affairs will react upon mining. Collieries will be taxed to their limit to supply regular demands. The Western coal mines, a portion of whose product is consigned to the smelters of Southeastern British Columbia, will have no easy task in keeping pace with these requirements now that smelting operations have been resumed.

The extension of the lead bounty, the resumption of dividends on Granby, the admission of zinc-sulphide ores into the United States free of duty, the establishment of a zinc smelter, are incidental, but important circumstances. Along with these, the activity of the important metalliferous mines of Southeastern British Columbia is distinctly encouraging.

Prospecting and mining were never more extensively carried on in Ontario than at present. From Wabigoon and the surrounding districts come reports of a revival of gold mining. The Sudbury region is normally active. Cobalt is shipping increasing quantities of ore. The Montreal River and Lorrain regions are being developed as rapidly as circumstances will permit, and the adjoining portions of Quebec are coming in for a fair share of attention. The iron industry of Ontario, while it is by no means dormant, is not receiving the same impetus. As an essential and basic industry it now calls for more notice from the powers that be. Graphite and asbestos mining in Quebec are flourishing.

Nova Scotia's coal trade will presumably be larger than in previous years. At Sydney and Sydney Mines, the Dominion Steel and the Nova Scotia blast furnaces are in steady operation. The pig iron output of the latter company for May exceeded that of any similar period in its history.

A cursory survey of the whole Dominion convinces the observer that healthy and constant progress is being made.

Nothing will contribute more largely towards prosperity than an unshaken belief in our high destiny as a nation. The status of no industry warrants that belief to a greater degree than that of the mining industry.