

inferior to that turned out by the millers in
ry. But if it be the creed, or may be the
believe that all things are possible to that
rated people, this safeguard to Alberta's
not a very strong one. A more optimistic
gs from the thought which may not have
to many, even of those most interested;
at in a country the people of which are only
ing to consume flour after an age-long con-
of another cereal, the more that the former
zed even by home competition, the quicker
onversion take place. As to the final out-
e should be little room for pessimism, de-
ent slowness of Oriental market develop-

ence with such slowness is illogical, for the
son that a market has first to be created,
he hardest thing in the world to create a
hout first having an available supply. And
tly the root of the said slowness. Alberta's
this year was reckoned at three and a half
shels. Keeping back a fair proportion of
rposes of seeding the probably greatly in-
ceage, and in view of the large and profit-
demand, what chance was there of meeting
ated great development in Japan? A part
C. of export trade is that the supply of any
to be adequate, regular and dependable.
ts are the very ones on which Canadian ex-
our is not especially meant in this connec-
mark applies to many other Canadian exports
countries—have proved themselves lament-
They have been spasmodic in their efforts;
een so reliable as they should have been in
ods in exact accordance with sample; have
d instructions in respect to shipping, pack-
o forth; and then when results have been
g, they have placed the blame on export
than on themselves. They have wanted
foreign market as a convenience when a
lacking; while in truth it is a coy reward
e most painstaking study, persistent effort,
nt rivalry with shrewd competitors. Such
rd to obtain as it is, and undervalued in
eat domestic prosperity, is a pearl of great
most needed.

THE FARMERS' LIMIT.

farmers asked the Government to cease
on and steel on the ground that the in-
ve received from eight to ten million
he last ten years and are, therefore, old
walk alone. The farmers profess great dis-
with the tariff, albeit they really found
schedules more kind to them than they
The reduction of the duty on some classes
nts pleases the farmer, who naturally
the area of reduction had been widened,
ate of duty on raw material is some con-
the manufacturer, who, of course, would
uty on the finished article and more rebate
material.
rmer is mistaken if he supposes that the
el industries of Canada are in a more com-
position than any other. There is no other
manufactures in which so many
cur, as are forced by those who have
of great plants, great capital and great
a scientific knowledge, as in the iron
dustries. It takes longer than eight or ten
hieve the end for which bounties on iron
ere first granted. The farmer applauds
of encouraging British trade relations
rather than American. He cannot dissent
position that it is even better to encour-

age the development of our own resources by our own
people on our own soil, than it is to multiply trans-
actions with our brethren across the sea. For the
more occupations we can establish that will bring
them to us, will be better for them; as well as for us.

The exploitation of the iron and steel deposits of
Canada is only in its infancy. It is right and proper
that the Government should persistently encourage
their development. Next year the Canadian Northern
Railway will be extended to the Hutton mines, north
of Sudbury, ore from which can then be transported
to Toronto, where blast furnaces will be established
under Canadian control. Iron ore will also be
brought from mines west of Port Arthur to smelting
works at that city, also under Canadian control.

These are two examples of what is being accom-
plished by Canadians. But our pushful neighbors are
not slow to act along the same lines, with a view
virtually to annexing even more of commercial Can-
ada than they already possess. For example, the
Bessemer Ore Company has been formed by Amer-
icans to explore territory close to the north shore of
Lake Superior. They have, within the last three months
discovered a deposit of high grade hematite ore, con-
taining 200,000,000 tons only 25 miles east of Port
Arthur. Over sixty test pits have been put down,
most of them on the east and west ends of the de-
posit, which has been traced for a distance of five
miles. The ore is within two or three feet of the sur-
face, and the test pits have so far shown it to be con-
tinuous to a depth of 35 feet. Steam shovels could be
used for mining after the preliminary shaking up of
the ore with explosives.

The Canadian Bessemer Ore Company is natu-
rally intended to minister to the iron and steel
prosperity of the United States. If the logic of past
events were different from what it is you might be
amused at the United States habit of expecting that
many of the best commercial opportunities of Canada
will naturally fall into Yankee hands. Here is
"The Iron Age," a sober, well-informed journal of the
highest repute the world over, discussing "The Can-
adian Bonus and Iron Ore Development," and show-
ing how the great manipulators of ore, having appar-
ently outlived their surprise that the Almighty should
have placed priceless treasures of metal north of the
Minnesota boundary, have naturally assumed that they
are the appointed exploiters of these assets.

While it is admitted that prospecting has not been
neglected, that the establishment of two large steel
companies has conduced to the development of our
ore supplies, it is asserted that the exploration north
of Lake Superior in the hope of finding the continua-
tion of the remarkable formation which has given
Minnesota its pre-eminence among the ore-producing
states, has been carried on by American rather than
Canadian interests. If the farmer would like to know
something more about our neighbors' attitude to iron
and steel in Canada, he might discover it in this para-
graph:—"The fact that strong and long-established
steel companies in the United States have a far
greater stake in getting control of any important
ore finds that may be made in Canada than have
Canadian steel manufacturers themselves, is likely
to be a prominent factor in iron mining development
across the border, and one that will count for more
than any preferential bonus on pig-iron into which
Canadian ores enter. The Moose Mountain
properties, north of Sudbury, Ont., acquired last year
by well-known capitalists experienced in iron and
steel manufacture in the United States, are already
being put in shape to ship to this side in 1907, and it
is quite well assured that these ores will practically
all find their destination in this country. Significant
also is the fact that American interests, rather than
Canadian interests, have brought to light Bessemer
ores of greater extent and value than was at first

credited in the Thunder Bay district east of Port
Arthur. It would be natural to expect that what-
ever is desirable in this or in other districts contigu-
ous to Lake Superior, would ultimately be acquired
to reinforce the position of important steel companies
on this side. On a smaller scale the situation is com-
parable with that which made the Steel Corporation
the one interest with which Mr. Hill was willing to
treat when he brought his big ore tonnage to market.
Among the American steel companies, with tens of
millions of investment and with ore supplies still suf-
ficient for the farther future, measured by the stand-
ard set by the Steel Corporation's reserves, it is a
question if there will not always be one whose
willingness and ability to acquire a Canadian ore
property of proved value will be sufficient to distance
Canadian competition."

Clearly, then, if the trend of trade in the United
States is any criterion, Canada will have no inde-
pendence in iron and steel unless she takes her own
strong measures to develop her own resources in her
own way. Under prevailing conditions about half the
pig-iron used in Canadian manufacture is imported.
The ores of Minnesota are brought near to the coal of
Pennsylvania; and their product could be brought
northward to Canada and destroy the Canadian steel
industry if the bonus were incontinently withdrawn.
The development of the industry must be continued
by public assistance. An end cannot be put to it until
the supply of cheap ore makes the importation of pig-
iron from the United States unnecessary, and un-
profitable.

THE MUNICIPAL BY-LAW.

The fact that the power by-law was the only one
carried last Tuesday in Toronto, and that that was
favored by the great majority of nearly four to one
proves that the average citizen can, on occasion, set
a mark for himself, and may absolutely refuse to have
it obscured. The issue before property-owners was,
shall the way be paved to cheap power? It was not,
shall a certain sum of money be voted? It was not, is
the public scheme feasible? It was not, the confisca-
tion in any shape of the rights or properties of present
private corporations. Representatives of the latter
appeared to wish them to believe that one or another of
these abstruse results was intended of their voting.
But this time citizens would have none of it. They aimed
steadily at the bull's eye, which was an outspoken ex-
pression of belief that, on the whole, between two ex-
pert opinions, that of the Hydro-Electric Commission
and that of certain engineers who might or might not
be unbiassed, they had infinitely more faith in the
former. The very fact that the power companies
seemed to be working so strenuously against the by-
law must have cast thousands of votes on its side.
The average man who knows nothing of the merits of
a question on which the doctors so conspicuously dis-
agreed felt he could do no great harm in giving a
more or less academic vote in favor of a scheme so
frowned upon by men whose self-interest lay so com-
pletely in the opposite camp.

Said average man who composes the bulk of the
electorate may recognize at the back of his own
mind that possibly the engineering talent of the
private companies is right and that the commission is
wrong. But he has a very strong leaning towards the
opposite point of view. In any case a vote for cheap
power might bring it; while one against would almost
certainly kill it. With such ideas struggling for ex-
pression, no wonder the poll resulted in a decisive
victory for public ownership.

Of the other by-laws submitted—and rejected—
that relating to the Yonge Street bridge was the most
important. Whatever might be the de-merits of the