

say this, and to say it emphatically, that the full \$5,000,000 will be expended in works for the development and advancement of Northern Ontario, and when these five millions have been expended, if I am a Minister representing Northern Ontario, \$5,000,000 more if necessary and as much more as may be demanded to keep pace with the necessary requirements for the development of the Northland will be provided.

Work under Commissioner Whitson.

I want now to direct your attention to the work that has already been done under Commissioner Whitson. Up to the present time 764 miles already have been constructed, of which over 500 have been fully completed and graded. Last year we expended all told, \$1,081,172.23. Work was carried on over the whole of Northern Ontario, extending from the Quebec boundary on the east to the Rainy River valley in the west. In the Rainy River valley we constructed 109 miles of roads and 42 miles of drains.

Rainy River.—In this district we have three-quarters of a million acres of splendid agricultural land, of which approximately 187,500 acres are now under cultivation, leaving ample room yet for development in this section. The work that we have done in this valley has already increased the value of the lands tributary to them from one and a half to three dollars per acre, and has provided facilities whereby the settlers can get their products to the mill and to the local market, and their children can go to school without difficulty and hardship.

Thunder Bay.—In the Thunder Bay District we have constructed 107 miles of improved roadways, forming leading arteries from the agricultural sections to the splendid market towns of Port Arthur and Fort William.

Algoma.—In Algoma we have expended considerable money on the Sault-Sudbury Trunk Road, which forms a splendid highway from Sault Ste. Marie into the good agricultural land to the east, thus assisting the settlers to get a market for their agricultural products. I am creditably informed that the lands in that territory were increased in some instances to the extent of from five to ten dollars an acre by the construction of that road.