

Scale of Operations and Supply of Ore.

I understand from Mr. Blaylock that the smallest plant the Company would construct would have a daily production of fifty tons of zinc and that it is impossible to fix any maximum limit to the output of the proposed plant. At Trail a small pilot plant was built early in the War, by 1923 the production was about 100 tons a day and during 1929 the production was over 230 tons a day. A similar development could be expected at the proposed plant on Ile Perrot, provided the supply of ore increases at the required rate and that a market can be found for the zinc and the sulphuric acid.

The production of zinc in the Province of Quebec during 1929 was nearly 10,000 tons, or 27 tons per day, and I understand that about 100 tons a day may be expected when the newer mines develop their zinc ore. We cannot limit our consideration of possibilities to the ore already in sight, and it is possible that ore may be received from mines further west.

On the other hand, the growth of the plant may be limited by the difficulty of disposing of the sulphuric acid that will be made. As will be shown later, nearly two tons of acid will be made for each ton of zinc, and this acid cannot well be stored in large quantities or shipped great distances.

As a basis for discussion I shall consider a plant having a production of one hundred tons of zinc per day with the reservation that this may ultimately be enlarged to perhaps twice that capacity.