

NOTES ON THE GEOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
OF PORTIONS OF THE DRAINAGE BASINS  
OF THE  
HARRICANAW AND NOTTAWAY RIVERS  
NORTHWESTERN QUEBEC.

INTRODUCTION

Under instructions from Mr. T. C. Denis, the Superintendent of Mines, about two months were spent in making a rapid trip of geological reconnaissance to the north of the Transcontinental Railway in northwestern Quebec. The chief aim of the expedition was to collect data bearing upon the possibilities of the occurrence of valuable minerals in that portion of the region traversed; but in addition, certain observations with reference to other natural resources may prove to be of interest. This report is of a very preliminary nature.

The writer was fortunate in having the assistance of Mr. A. O. Dufresne, a graduate of the Ecole Polytechnique, Montreal.

*Itinerary:* The railroad crosses the Harricanaw river at Amos, 141 miles eastward from Cochrane and 62 miles due east from the western boundary of the Province of Quebec. Leaving Amos on July 8th, the expedition followed the Harricanaw northward for about 72 miles, where a portage extends to the headwaters of the Allard river, which flows into the western end of Matagami lake. Upon reaching this lake the party was divided, Mr. Dufresne passing eastward to explore Gull and Olga lakes, while the writer descended the Nottaway river for 100 miles to a point 10 miles below Kelvin lake and about 34 miles from the tidal water of Rupert Bay. Returning to Matagami lake, the party united in a careful examination of its shores, and after ascending the Bell river for about 50 miles, came up its large tributary, the Natagagan river, arriving at the railway on Sept. 4th. A track survey was made of the Natagagan river from its mouth to a point about 17 miles from the railway downstream, to which point a survey of the river was made by W. J. Wilson of the Geological Survey of Canada in 1906.

*Previous Work:* The Bell and Nottaway rivers, Matagami, Olga and Gull lakes had been previously examined from a geological point of view by Dr. R. Bell, formerly Acting-Director of the Geological Survey of Canada.\*

\* Summ. Report, Geol. Survey of Canada, 1895, pp. 74-81A.  
1896, pp. 64-74A.

Geology of the Basin of the Nottaway River—Geol. Survey of Canada,  
vol. XLII., 1902, pp. 1-11K.

Geological map of Basin of Nottaway River, 10 miles to 1 inch, 1900.