

By others the visitor is assured that the boom is to be an abiding one, and these endeavor by the employment of logic to impress him with their beliefs. 'Look here' said one 'there is no doubt this boom is to go on and Sydney is to be the place in Canada. See that young fellow over there. That is young V. H. He is an only son. His father could command for him the very best position in all of Canada. Well the father and the lad talked it over, and the advice of the father to the son was "go to Sydney young man" and do you think, knowing all that he knows, and all he can command, his influence, his millions, etc, that he would have advised his boy to come here unless he was pretty sure this was to be 'the' best place in all of Canada.

I wouldn't, if I could, argue the point. The old saying is "All things come to those who wait."

Of friend A. C. Ross this may be said almost literally. After long and arduous waiting, with a bound he has at last come into his kingdom. If he still wears that imperishable suit it is not because he has to. He's a good looking man and looks well in any style of dress. He's in luck and is reported to be rich. He has been doing big things of late. First there is the large brick building which is being constructed for him, then there is his acquiring by purchase at about half cost the Sydney Hotel, and lastly there is the order he has given for the construction of no fewer than two hundred workmen's houses at Ashly. The contractors for the building of these houses are the well known firm of Rhodes & Curry of Amherst and Shurman and Co. of P. E. I. It is thought that Mr. Ross is not the principal in this big transaction but is an intermediary, not for the Dom. Iron & Steel Coy., but for certain of its big shareholders. Big companies after this are going to alter their past policy as to building houses for workmen. If private individuals can be had who will build the houses the companies will not enter into competition but may rather grant assistance in the collection of rents etc. Only fifty of the houses may be completed this year, the remainder will be rushed up next spring. The average cost of the houses will be \$1600.00 each. Mr. Ross sold a corner of the Sydney Hotel property, for a ~~bar site~~, for \$6000.00. The hotel, seeing the boom is on, is said to be worth its original cost. If so Mr. Ross falls to make \$22,000 by the transaction.

Mr. Whitney and party spent a busy yet a pleasant week in Sydney. Mr. Whitney was in great spirits and hopes. He takes great interest in the work now being done on the site of the new steel works. Indeed his heart is bound up in the work. He considers this by far the most gigantic undertaking in which he ever was engaged, and on its success he is building higher than ever he built, feeling assured that it will be a great success and a most profitable undertaking. So great is his interest in the work that he will build a house next summer in which he will reside a portion of each month the year round.

There is talk of Sydney having a street railway in the near future. It is said that Mr. D. J. Kennelly has something like this in view. Six of the leading banks will soon have agencies here. The banks seemingly believe in the boom and they have good sources of information.

Of the great works being erected within the

town limits I scarcely know where to begin to speak. Adjectives such as gigantic, stupendous, applied to the undertaking fail to convey a proper conception of the great work now going on. As one walks over the scene of operations, sees the hosts of men at work, and notes what has been done in the way of digging and building he realizes what things of magnitude may be accomplished by money and brains.

At present there are probably 1500 to 2000 men employed between the site of the coke ovens and the new wharf at International. The ground in every direction is torn up and shovels and wheelbarrows are in motion everywhere. I noticed but one steam shovel and really its performances were not creditable. A large number of shanties are on the ground for the accommodation of the workmen and there are large sheds for the storage of cement. A great pile of bricks is on hand ready for use. Work goes on night and day. Already a large wharf for the reception of supplies has been completed, the substructure of a bridge to connect the town proper with the works is already laid. The foundation for the store house, a building 1000 ft by 250 has been begun; the new offices will be occupied by Mr. Nicolson and the engineering staff in a day or two; two large sheds for fire brick, etc. have been built; there are already several branches of railways and there will be over a dozen miles of branches about the works; a large piece of the main foundation work has been finished, and the first of the furnaces, with heavy concrete as foundation for immense iron columns, looms high up in the air; other of the furnaces have been begun and the click of the hammer now mingles with the rumbling of the trolleys.

With plans and details at command it might be possible to give an intelligent description of the great works, otherwise it is impossible. To obtain an adequate idea of their extent one has to visit the locality. The best way to view the whole site is to drop off at the crossing, that is, where the Sydney and Louisburg Ry. intersects the railway to the Pier. Here the coke ovens are to be erected, 300 of them to begin with. The ground is damp, not to say boggy, and immense drains, or let it be said, canals, are being cut all around in order to drain the water. These canals seem to be 10 ft deep, it being necessary to go that depth in order to get to a level of the brook. The water for the use of the coke ovens and also for the steel works will be brought a distance of 9 miles in pipes 36 inches in diameter. Having 'done' the coke works site, follow the railway townwards until the Dom. I. and S. Coy's crossing is met. Take this crossing which leads to the pier. Between the crossing and the pier are situated all the works in course of construction, the distance between the coke ovens and the pier, by rail, being about two miles, and along all that route with the exception of a small spot, the ground will be occupied by the largest plant in Canada.

Sydney has four newspapers. Mr. Fred Muggah, who assumed charge of Sydney's daily—the Record—is doing good work on that paper. For a time it was considered doubtful, by some, whether the paper would or would not be a success. Its success is now assured. With so much favor is the paper received, and so rapidly is its subscription list and advertising patronage extending, that it will be necessary to enlarge the paper at no distant date. The Record is in the enviable position of having almost as many advertisements as can be found room for. The paper is in every way a credit to the town.