

Fort William, Rat Portage, and Sault Ste. Marie, each gives promise of being respectable members of Ontario's fair sisterhood of cities.

The news of the intentions of the Ontario and Lake Superior Company makes prophecy in the case of the Sault easy. The company is organized with a capital of \$20,000,000, of which \$6,000,000 is paid up, the purpose being to establish reduction works there to cost \$1,500,000. Connected with these will be chemical works intended to save the sulphur and other by-products of the reduction works, which would otherwise be belched uselessly into the air. The cost of the chemical works is estimated at \$500,000. Alkali works will also be erected at a cost of \$1,500,000, and a consequence of the saving of the sulphur will be the erection of a \$250,000 sulphide pulp mill. But the largest project in contemplation is the erection of a steel rail mill at a cost of \$2,500,000.

Whether in this latter project there is any idea of using the nickel of the Sudbury district for the production of nickel-steel rails, which eminent authorities declare is to be the steel rail of the future, does not appear. It can assuredly be said, however, that there are few places more happily situated for the union of the two. Immense bodies of iron ore have been from time to time reported from New Ontario. The Atik-oken deposits have frequently been referred to. A more recent discovery is in the Michipicoten district, and so sure is the owner of the mercantile value of the ore that a railway has been constructed from the Helen mine

to Lake Superior, and already contracts have been made for the delivery of 500,000 tons during the next season. Mr. F. H. Clerque, the enterprising manager of the great pulp mill at Sault Ste. Marie, is interested in this property, and he is also the active spirit in the Ontario and Lake Superior Company. It is altogether likely that the company look forward to assembling Ontario iron and nickel ores at Sault Ste. Marie, and thus producing nickel-steel at the nearest available point to the mines. The proposed reduction works, however, possess an interest for every owner of mineral lands in the territory tributary to Sault Ste. Marie. The purpose is to establish a market for ores there. Every carload of mineral ore taken from the earth will there be sure of a purchaser. The effect on the mineral development of the region should be enormous.

The lumber industry in those north-western parts of the province also shows unwonted vitality. The Algoma Conservator, for example, reports that three mills in its constituency which have been suspended for comatose for some time past, are all showing renewed life. Electric plants and new machinery are being put into them, and sawing will soon start up on a large scale. It also reports that a large pulp mill with abundant capital behind it will be erected to the south of Spanish river, the logs being floated down that stream. Both the activity in lumbering and the extensive preparations for the treatment of ores have been directly influenced by the Ontario Government's twin policies forbidding the exporta-

tion of logs, and of nickel and copper ores or matte. The effects of these regulations will grow with the growth of the years, and instead of New Ontario being a barren neck of rocks separating the east and the west, it may soon be the most lively section through which the traveller passes as he hurries from one ocean to the other.

But the other day we were able to congratulate with our brethren of the east on the prosperity that reigns through all industries in Nova Scotia. On the shores of Sydney Bay a village is growing with astonishing rapidity into a city which will make its far away sister, Vancouver, look to its laurels. The province in which the latter is situated is already looked upon as the Witwatersrand of North America. In the territories ranching and irrigation is transforming the foothills and the prairies. Population is flowing into the wheatlands farther east. New Ontario we have just spoken of. Old Ontario does not mean to be behind-hand in the race. Quebec is renewing her youth with dairying and cattle-raising and better government. The Maritime Provinces are realizing that they have only just begun to discover their wonderful resources, and even the dim isle is the gateway of the St. Lawrence, which will one day be a part of the Dominion, is furnishing the raw material which is to be the foundation of the newest Canadian city. Canada is an empire in itself.

The Elgin Elevator Co., Elgin, Man., has been incorporated with a capital stock of \$10,000.

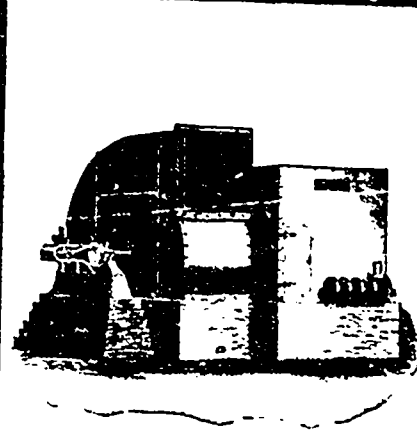
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