

and Mineralogy be established. Certain recommendations made by this deputation were accepted and acted upon during the following year, 1877. A report, for instance, was published entitled 'Statistical Report on the Production, Value, Exports, and Imports of Minerals in Canada During 1886 and Previous Years,' this being the first report of its kind.

In 1900 an order in council was passed making a new appointment to the position of superintendent of mines, an office in the Department of the Interior which had been created nearly thirty years previously. The first duty assigned to this officer was the establishment of the Dominion Government assay office at Vancouver, and in the following six years a number of technical reports on mining subjects were prepared and published. During this period, too, important work was undertaken in the investigation of the processes of electric smelting of iron ores in Europe, and experimental work under government auspices in electric smelting of iron ores at Sault Ste. Marie. Another important innovation was the introduction of the Swedish methods of magnetic surveying for exploring Canadian magnetic deposits, and the publication of a monograph on 'Magnetometric Methods of Surveying.' In 1907, as we have said, the Department of Mines was created, and it was placed under the control of a Minister of Mines. This department consists of two branches, one called the Mines Branch and the other the Geological Survey. The function of the Mines Branch is to collect and publish full statistics of the mineral production and of the mining and metallurgical industries of Canada, and such data regarding the economic minerals of Canada as relate to the processes and activities connected with their utilization, and to collect and preserve all available records of mines and mining works in Canada; to make detailed investigations of mining camps and areas containing economic minerals or deposits of other economic substances, for the purposes of determining the mode of occurrence and the extent and character of the ore bodies and other deposits of economic substances; to prepare and publish such maps, plans, sections, diagrams, drawings and illustrations as are necessary to elucidate the reports issued by the Mines Branch; to make such chemical, mechanical and metallurgical investigations as found expedient; and to collect and prepare for exhibition in the museum specimens of the different ores and associated rocks and minerals of Canada, and such other materials as are necessary to afford an accurate exhibit of the mining and metallurgical resources and industries of Canada.

The functions of the Geological Survey Branch are a little extended from old days. They are, to make a full and scientific examination and survey of the geological structure and mineralogy of Canada; to collect, classify, and arrange for examination in the Victoria Memorial Museum such specimens as are necessary to afford a complete and exact knowledge of the geology, mineralogy, palaeontology, ethnology, and fauna and flora of Canada; to make chemical and other researches; to study and report upon the facts relating to water supply for irrigation and domestic purposes, and to collect and preserve all available records of artesian and other wells; to make out the forest areas of Canada, and to make and report upon investigations useful to the preservation of the forest resources of Canada, and numbers of other things. It will be seen that the combined activities of these two branches of the Department of Mines should be invaluable to the country if maintained at any high rate of

efficiency, but Mr. Wilson complains that the funds voted to the department by Parliament have, until the last few years, been very small—about \$10,000. However, for 1909-10, the total amount available was \$505,187, but even that amount was only slightly more than a half of one per cent. of the annual value of the industry for the same year. The utmost economy is to be commended, but it is not economy to starve such a vital department as this or to cripple its efficiency for want of funds which it can legitimately use.

### SHY AT TIMES

The liberal papers did not like what Congressman Clark said the other day in Congress when speaking to the reciprocity agreement and therefore gave his remarks no prominent place. As in this matter of the agreement the Record knows no politics, we give below the pith of what he said. We are now told his speech was a joke. That is a little too thin. Every American is an annexationist, but some have the sense to keep quiet:

"I am for it, because I hope to see the day when the American flag will float over every square foot of the British North American possessions clear to the North Pole. They are people of our blood. They speak our language. Their institutions are much like ours. They are trained in the difficult art of self-government. My judgment is that if the treaty of 1854 had never been abrogated, the chances of a consolidation of these two countries would have been much greater than they are now.

"I do not have any doubt whatever, that the day is not far distant when Great Britain will see all of her North American possessions become a part of this Republic. That is the way things are tending now.

"Having said that much, I want to say another thing. I do not confine my support of reciprocity bills to this one. I am in favor of reciprocity treaties with the Central and South American republics, including Mexico, (Applause). The quicker we get them the better off we will be. Of course, as between the two, if we had to have reciprocity with Canada and not with those countries to the south, or with the countries to the south and not with Canada, I would take reciprocity with Canada.

"The intelligent farmers of America know that the agricultural products of Canada are inconsiderable when compared with the agricultural products of the United States. To use a common phrase, they do not constitute a drop in the bucket. They also know that wages are as high in Canada in many lines as in America, and higher in labor pertaining to the production of lumber, so they know too much to be scared by the overworked cry of 'pauper labor.'

Mr. Norris—"I wanted to ask the gentleman (Mr. Clark) something along the line of universal peace. — I understand it, the gentleman favors this bill, for at least one reason, that it will have a tendency in the end to bring Canada into the Union."

Mr. Clark, of Missouri—"Yes, sir; have no doubt about that."

Mr. Norris—"Will that have a tendency to preserve peace with Great Britain?"

Mr. Clark, of Missouri—"Why, certainly it will. I do not have any doubt whatever that the day is not far distant when Great Britain will joyfully see all of her North American possessions become a part of this