

In Canada we consider the relations between Government and the mineral industry as a sort of partnership. The Minister of our Department, Mr. Prudham, has described it as "The indispensable partnership".

Separately and together over the years the members of the partnership have done a great deal of pioneering in the various fields of research. Metallurgists of our department, for instance, were among the pioneers in developing the now universally-used flotation process. In fact, our department was doing work on flotation before flotation machinery came into general use. Many of the Canadian ores are complex and some of them highly so, and our metallurgists and ore dressing experts have had to use every ingenuity at their command in working out treatment methods and in overcoming recovery problems. In the treatment of uranium ores our metallurgists have been doing outstanding work, more particularly in the treatment of low grade ores by leaching. The work in this field was also a pioneering effort as was the development of a process for roasting high arsenical gold ores. The leaching process devised by Professor Forward of the University of British Columbia and his associates for treating the Lynn Lake ores is another outstanding accomplishment.

All these researches on ore treatment and allied problems, of course, have a very important bearing on the overall outlook, for one of the results is to bring within economic range deposits that could not otherwise be developed. Canada is well advanced, too, in the use of new methods and new techniques in the field of geophysics, and in geodetic and topographic mapping. We have done much of the pioneer work in the use of modern methods.

In the development of our mineral resources, as in so many other ways, we have had occasion quite frequently over the years to work in close harmony with you people in the United States. This was particularly in evidence during the war when Americans and Canadians were often found serving on the same boards and committees, and it is very much in evidence in the atomic energy field. Mineralwise, the economies of our two countries are closely linked for we have a surplus production of several of the metals and minerals your country must have to meet the requirements of its expanding economy. And of course the trade in minerals is not all one-way, for we are heavy importers of coal and other minerals and mineral products from your country. Moreover, in the very important matter of our common defence, Canada's strength in minerals and the diversity of its output are vital factors. In many respects - in mineral development and otherwise - we are what might be termed natural partners, and it is a partnership that has proved mutually profitable from the outset. May it long continue to do so.

Summing it all up, then, I can say that we look to the future of our mineral industry with every confidence. We have come a long way since those days near the turn of the present century when hardy people from all parts of the world were trekking northward to the Klondike searching for gold. Some of them followed the trail to the sunset without finding the gold, others fell by the wayside, and still others made their fortunes. We were a young country then and we knew little of our potentialities. We know a