

world, and we have one of them at Sudbury, in Ontario. All the minerals of value, silver, lead, copper, asbestos, are to be found in the country, but more especially gold, which is produced far east in Nova Scotia, in Central Ontario, in the Rat Portage District, all over British Columbia, on the Saskatchewan, and, as we have lately learned, on the Yukon. Our gold discoveries challenge the attention of the world. Meanwhile, quietly and unostentatiously, we are pumping up petroleum from 10,000 wells in Lambton and Bothwell, salt on the borders of Lake Huron, and natural gas in Essex and Welland.

We have within Canada valuable forests, extensive fisheries, fertile lands, and enormous mineral deposits, in fact, everything which contributes to the material wealth of the people. Of the country, the resources of which have by our large expenditures been brought within reach of industry, we are all proud. It is a contribution to the greatness of our Empire. What it needs is more men to take advantage of its wealth, and these will surely come as its capabilities are made known.—*The Mail and Empire.*

#### OUR GREAT NORTH.

NATURE entrusted to the people of Ontario a marvellous fund of wealth in the forests and minerals of the great northern part of the province. Of the extent of the deposits of valuable metals we can as yet form no estimate. The development already carried on has been sufficient merely to give glimpses of what the rocks contain. We know, however, that Ontario has in abundance nearly all the important metals of commerce. The value of mineral deposits is popularly appreciated. People need only to be told that there are so many square miles of gold-bearing rocks and so many square miles of nickel or iron deposits to understand, to a certain extent at least, the significance of the fact. This is not the case with the forests. The people of Ontario are only just beginning to appreciate what a valuable possession thousands of square miles of forests may be. Many other nations are alive to this, although some have awakened too late. Germany has so wisely conserved her heritage that she draws from her forests an annual revenue of \$8,000,000. Under the system in vogue

there this revenue will not only not decrease, but will increase from year to year.

Although the people of Ontario are only just becoming aroused to the magnificence of Nature's provision for national revenue, they are becoming aroused in earnest. The forests should belong to the people. They do in Germany. In France no Government forests have been sold since 1870. The Federal forest law of 1865 in Switzerland prohibits the cutting of an amount of timber in excess of the total annual increase. Russia passed a somewhat similar law in 1888. India began systematic forest management about forty years ago. Even Japan is very much ahead of us in the management of her forests. She is not content with taking only the amount of the annual increase, but is systematically planting the best forest trees that can be found in any country.

Ontario will suffer no longer the criminal sacrifice of this fund of national capital. Individuals have become wealthy by the exploitation of our forests. Acquiring cheaply vast tracts of timber lands, they have striven to