CANADA FOUNDRY COMPANY'S DAVENPORT WORKS, TORONTO.

The fine perspective view shown below represents "Canada's model engineering plant," built by the Canada Foundry Company, at Davenport, just outside the city limits of Toronto.

This company was organized in 1900, purchased the ancient St. Lawrence Pipe Foundry, Toronto, and continued the manufacture of cast iron pipes, hydrants, and waterworks supplies generally. Owing, however, to the energy and enterprise which the new executive threw into it, the volume of business increased so rapidly that the Berkeley Street plant was soon found to be altogether inadequate to meet the demands, hence a sixty acre site was secured in an ideal location at Davenport: near the junction of the Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific Railroads; upon which has been erected large machine shop, foundry, forge, screw and nut factory, bridge shop, and boiler shop; all connected by 1½ miles of yard tracks with the two great railway systems. So admirably laid out are these immense shops and so perfectly equipped with the latest modern tools and machinery, that even rivals are constrained to express their admiration, and every Canadian interested in the progress and development of his country speaks of them with pride. The starting up of this plant in 1903 was a red letter day in the industrial history of the Dominion.

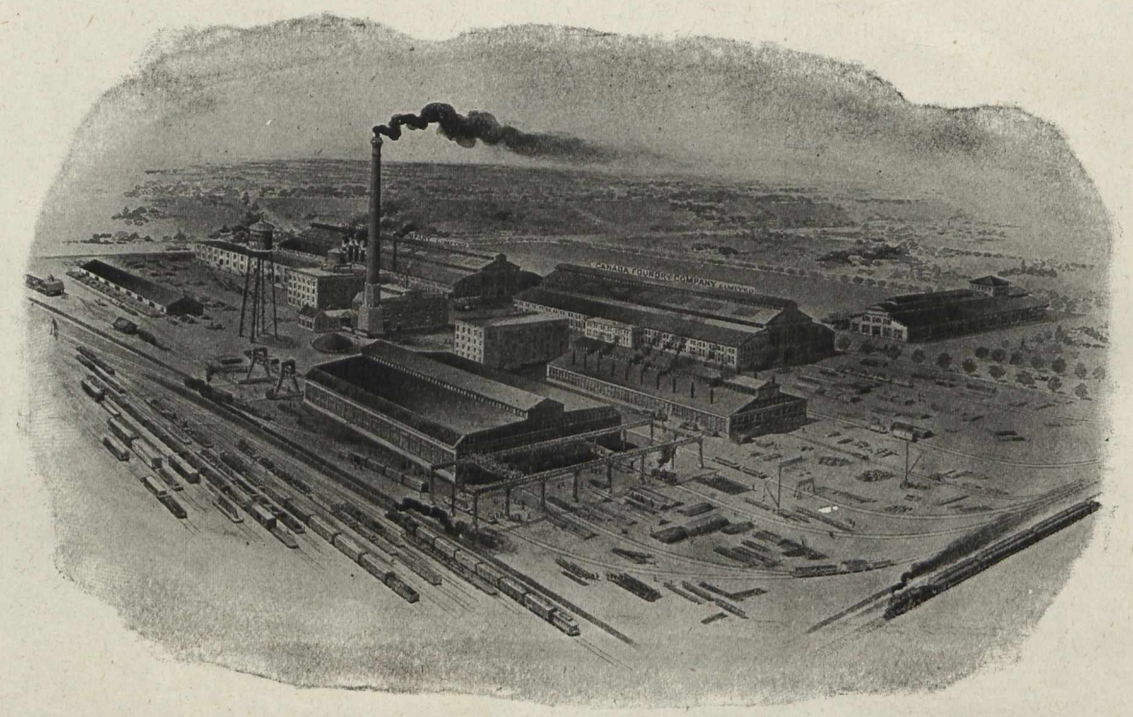

Fig. 1.—Birds Eye View Looking Northwards.

When we visited the works a few days ago (July 17) every department was in full swing; in fact every shop seemed like a bee-hive. So crowded were the floors with work that it was next to impossible to get photographic views in detail, hence we had to be contented with pictures taken when all was still.

In Fig. 2 is shown a group of the respective heads of departments, with Mr. J. W. Harkom, the genial and able General Superintendent in the centre. The magnitude of the work going on in these extensive works, may be inferred from the size of the superintendent's staff.

The accounting, drafting and production departments are temporarily located in the north-east corner of the machine shop; but will soon be domiciled in the fine, concrete walled offices now in course of erection at the south-east corner of the works.

In logical order we now come to the pattern shop. The activities of this department may always be taken as a good index of the condition of the sales department, and we were fortunate in getting a snap shot (Fig 4), when every bench was occupied, and work at high pressure. In this shop, 220 feet long by 50 feet wide, over 50 men were at work, on benches fitted with Emmert Patent Vises; or, on the latest modern labor-saving machines: Band saws, jointers, circular planers, thicknessers, trimmers, tool sharpeners, etc.; nearly all electrically driven. On each pillar down center of building (6) is fixed a glue pot heated by electricity, and controlled by the foreman in his office. Protection against fire is adequate, for there is a complete sprinkler system and water bucket on every post. The adjustable sage green window blinds can be transferred from one side of shop to the other to suit the course of the sun. Wash basin and well kept lavatories are provided for the men. Impressed we were with the orderly, business-like way in which this section is run. We learned that two years ago only eight skilled pattern-makers were employed, whereas now there are forty. The 80,000 feet of yellow pine lumber piled on the storage ground at the north end shows that the floor below, now used as a sand, coke and general foundry storage room, will soon have to be utilized in order to meet the demands of the increasing business.

Pattern Vault.

The storage of patterns is provided for in a four story fire-proof detached building, 75 x 100 feet, at the south end of pattern shop. Here we found 20,000 patterns, arranged on the respective floors, as follows:—A, heavy: all kinds; B, cranes, dynamo fields, etc; C, hydrants, valves; D, pumps, air compressors. The patterns are hoisted to the floors by hydraulic elevator. The walls are steel and brick, and the building is lighted on three sides, through wire glass windows in iron casings. Every alternate window has a half-swing open sash, held by a chain attached to a fusible plug, which melts at 170°-F. and thus closes automatically in case of fire, which is then taken care of by an efficient sprinkler system. The place is heated in winter by exhaust steam about 50°-F. Four pattern-makers are constantly employed on the top floor D, repairing and altering patterns, and the vault foreman, who is also inspector of castings, is assisted by four helpers. As in the case of pattern shop, so here, we found an excellent card system, which we purpose illustrating at some future date.

Parallel with the pattern shop and vault, on the east side,