

HOUSING SCHEME IN SASKATCHEWAN

Town Planning Legislation in Prairie Province

Unfortunately, owing to the conditions under which municipalities in Saskatchewan may borrow, it has not been practicable to put the Federal Housing scheme in operation in this province, according to an article in the current number of Conservation of Life, issued by the Commission of Conservation. Commissioner C. J. Yorath states that the chief stumbling block in Western Canada for the carrying out of a housing scheme is the fact that the provincial Government intends to make any loans which may be advanced for this purpose part of the municipalities' debt. In the matter of town planning and control of municipal affairs Saskatchewan has perhaps the most advanced legislation in the Dominion. The Town Planning and Rural Development Act is administered by the Department of Municipal Affairs. The comprehensive nature of this Act may be gathered from the following list of regulations which have been issued under it:—

- (1) Town Planning and Rural Development (Scheme) Procedure Regulations;
- (2) Town Planning and Rural Development (By-law) Procedure Regulations;
- (3) Regulations applicable to new development within the jurisdiction of municipalities which have not made regulations as authorized by section 5 of the Town Planning and Rural Development Act, and to new development in unorganized territory;
- (4) Model regulations respecting new development for adoption by urban municipalities;
- (5) Model regulations respecting new development for adoption by rural municipalities.

The object of the Act is effectively to control the development of cities, town and rural municipalities. The importance of this being done is fully realized in Saskatchewan. Not only has the necessary legislation been obtained but Mr. M. B. Weekes, M.E.L.C., Director of Surveys, has been appointed Director of Town Planning, and W. A. Begg, A.M.E.L.C., formerly Townsite Engineer for the Department of Highways, has been appointed Town Planning Engineer. The services of both will be available to local authorities to assist and advise in the preparation of schemes and development by-laws.

BOG ORES NOW HAVE ONLY HISTORIC INTEREST

As sources of iron, deposits of bog ore in Quebec province are now of little but historic interest. From the early days of the colony up till a few years ago, they supplied a number of small charcoal furnaces, but the known deposits, though numerous, are many of them worked out, while those remaining are not of sufficient size to support a modern iron industry.

Among the better known were those of Vaudreuil, of Acton in Bagot county, of St. Wenceslas in Nicolet county, and of Wickham in Drummond County which supplied the Drummondville furnace, and, best known of all, that at Lac à la Tortue, on the railway from Three Rivers to Grand Mère, which for many years supplied the furnace at Radnor, as stated in a bulletin issued by the Department of Mines.

CIVIC IMPROVEMENT LEAGUE OF CANADA

It is desirable that another conference of the Civic Improvement League of Canada should be held during the present year, says the Commission of Conservation. The previous annual conferences took place at Ottawa, 1916; Winnipeg, 1917; and Victoria, B.C., 1918.

The objects of the League, as a national body, are confined to the bringing together annually of the local civic organizations in the Dominion. It is not

SHOW PRODUCTION OF STRUCTURAL MATERIALS

Revised Figures are Given in Annual Report of Department of Mines Which Has Just Been Published ---Detailed Values Given

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ceived showing a production valued at \$1,512,099. The increasing production during the next two or three years is no doubt due in considerable part to the greater efficiency in the collection of the record.

SLATE PRODUCTION.

There is a small annual production of slate in Canada, obtained from the New Rockland quarries, Melbourne township, Richmond county, operated by The New Rockland Slate Co., Ltd.

The production in 1917 was 1,422 squares valued at \$7,789, as compared with the production in 1916 of 1,262 squares valued at \$6,223.

No exports of slate have been reported since 1886 with the exception of the years 1908 and 1909.

The imports of slate during the past twelve years have ranged in value from \$90,000 to over \$200,000 per annum.

The total value of the imports during the calendar year 1917 was \$106,893, and included: roofing slate, 3,909 squares valued at \$20,785; school writing slate, valued at \$40,608; slate pencils, \$8,717, and other slate manufactures of, \$36,788.

MARBLE.

From 1886 to 1896 there was a small production of marble, aggregating, however, only 45,837 in value for the eleven years. During the next eleven years—

possible, however, for such a League to continue as a permanent organization in the form in which it now exists. Now that the war is over some definite steps should be taken to create a permanent body to educate public opinion on matters connected with civic improvement and municipal government. It is hoped that it will be possible to arrange a conference in the autumn, at which one of the important questions to be considered will be the future organization of the League.

PROGRESS OF HOUSING MOVEMENT IN ONTARIO

The fact that Ontario was responsible for initiating the movement for Government housing in Canada and that the province has appropriated \$2,000,000 of its own money to be spent in housing has given it a start in advance of the other provinces in the matter of carrying out housing schemes. The Housing Act and scheme of the province was approved by the Federal Government on the 20th February last.

Mr. J. A. Ellis, an ex-Mayor of Ottawa and a member of the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board, has been appointed Director of Housing, and is giving able leadership to the movement in the province. The Director reports that 47 municipalities have already appointed housing commissions and applied for loans, and that the whole of the \$10,000,000 available is already spoken for. Actual building operations have begun in Toronto. Two sites of about 40 acres in area have been acquired in the city of Ottawa and are being planned with a view to building operations being started in the immediate future, as stated in a recent issue of Conservation of Life published by the Commission of Conservation.

Breakwater, Petit Rocher, N.B.

SECOND CALL FOR TENDERS.

This work is being re-advertised for tenders owing to the fact that the bids received on the first call were considered too high.

Sealed tenders addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for repairs to Breakwater at Petit Rocher,

1897 to 1907—there is no record of any production, but the opening of the quarries at Phillipsburg, and South Stukely, Que., together with the development of quarries in Ontario and British Columbia, has resulted in a considerable production of marble during the past nine years. The total value of the production in 1917 was returned as \$55,820, comprising ornamental marble, 1,210 tons, valued at \$55,000, and crushed marble, 280 tons, valued at \$820. The production in 1916 was valued at \$118,810, comprising ornamental marble, 1,034 tons, valued at \$103,400, and crushed marble, 27,464 tons, valued at \$15,410. The imports of marble during the calendar year 1917 were valued at \$199,697, as compared with \$171,849 in 1916.

SANDSTONE.

The value of the production of sandstone during 1917 is reported as \$261,256, as compared with a value of \$146,244 in 1916. A large portion of the sandstone is quarried for building purposes, though considerable quantities are used for rubble and for paving.

GRANITE.

The production of granite including taprock, syenite, etc., during 1917, according to returns received from 47 active firms, was valued at \$639,412, as compared with a production in 1916 valued at \$1,247,267.

N.B., will be received at this office until 12 o'clock noon, Tuesday, September 16, 1919, for repairs to the breakwater at Petit Rocher, Gloucester County, N.B.

Plans and forms of contract can be seen and specification and forms of tender obtained at this department, at the office of the District Engineer at Chatham, N.B., and at the Post Office, Petit Rocher, N.B.

Tenders will not be considered unless made on printed forms supplied by the department and in accordance with conditions contained therein.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted cheque on a chartered bank payable to the order of the Minister of Public Works, equal to 10 p.c. of the amount of the tender. War Loan Bonds of the Dominion will also be accepted as security, or War Bonds and cheques

RICH ORE BODIES OF UNGAVA COAST

Inexhaustible Supplies of High Grade Iron Ore on Koksoak River

In the report on "Iron Ore Occurrences in Canada," Volume 2, compiled by B. Lindeman, M.E., and L. L. Bolton, M.A., B.Sc., with an introduction by A. H. A. Robinson, B.A.Sc., and published by the Mines Branch, Department of Mines, an account is given of the iron deposits of Ungava, and under the heading "Koksoak River," the enormous iron ore deposits of that river, which empties into Ungava Bay, are thus described:

For the next ten miles (going up the river) to the south of the Swampy Bay river, exposures of iron-bearing rocks are almost continuous, and the amount of ore in sight must be reckoned by hundreds of millions of tons. The ore is not everywhere high grade, and probably a large proportion of it would be unprofitable to work, but there is certainly an almost inexhaustible supply of high grade ore. Two miles below the last-mentioned exposure, the rocks were found to consist of a 25-foot bed of jaspery ore composed largely of magnetite, with a small admixture of hematite underlain by 10 feet of siliceous, ferruginous limestone, holding spathic ore in bands and nodular masses up to several hundred pounds in weight. A great part of the magnetite is nearly pure and contains little jasper. The beds are exposed along the right bank of the river for more than a quarter of a mile.

The rocks were again examined 3½ miles farther downstream, where only the cherty carbonates were found; but half a mile below, the river passes close to a high hill on the west side, where fifty feet of red garnetiferous, siliceous, ferruginous shale and jasper are overlain by 200 feet of jaspery ore, composed chiefly of magnetite and coloured by an admixture of hematite.

The bedded iron ores outcrop along the river for about three miles farther downstream.

if required to make up an odd amount. Note.—Blue prints can be obtained at this department by depositing an accepted bank cheque for the sum of \$10, payable to the order of the Minister of Public Works, which will be returned if the intending bidder submit a regular bid.

By order,
R. C. DESROCHERS,

Secretary.

Department of Public Works,
Ottawa, August 13, 1919.

EARNINGS AND RUNNING EXPENSES OF RAILWAYS

The following table taken from the 1918 report on Railway Statistics, issued by the Department of Railways and Canals, shows the totals of gross earnings and operating expenses of Canadian railways since the year 1875:—

Year.	Gross earnings.	Operating expenses.	Percentage of operating expenses to earnings.
	\$	\$	
1875	19,470,539	15,075,532	81.1
1881	27,987,508	20,121,418	71.9
1887	38,841,609	27,624,683	71.1
1893	52,042,396	36,616,033	70.3
1899	62,243,784	40,706,217	65.3
1905	106,467,198	79,977,573	75.2
1911	188,733,494	131,033,785	69.4
1916	263,527,157	180,542,259	68.9
1917	310,771,479	222,890,637	71.7
1918	330,220,150	273,955,436	82.9