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Montreal and Quebec Harbours. A remarkable letter was read at the weekly meeting of the Council of the Montreal Board of Trade. It was signed by the Secretary of the Quebec Board of Trade and invited an expression of opinion from the Montreal Board upon the question whether it is not useless to spend any more money on deepening the channel between Montreal and Quebec. The letter added: "Everybody seems to think here that it is a useless expense which the Government ought to stop, because it is certain that before long, ocean steamers which will come in our direction will draw more than 30 feet of water." It is not surprising that the Council did not deem it necessary to take any action in connection with the letter. The speaker at the Congress of the Chamber of Commerce and the Empire who remarked that every port in Canada was condemned by the people of every other port, was not far out. The people of Quebec, of Toronto and of every other city in Canada cannot learn too soon that Montreal is naturally the National Port of the Dominion. It is situated at the head of ocean navigation, and at the foot of inland navigation, and it is the greatest commercial centre and railway centre in the country. If steamers drawing more than thirty feet of water are coming this way, the only thing to do is to deepen the channel. All experience shews that ocean traffic will always be carried by the ocean ships, to the head of navigation.

The Strathcona Banquet at Aberdeen. The banquet given at Aberdeen by Lord Strathcona, in connection with the University celebration will go on record as one of the most princely feasts in history. At the great function at which 150 honorary degrees were conferred, McGill University was well represented by Lord Strathcona (who as Chancellor of Aberdeen University presided) and by Principal Petersen. The Chancellor instituted

some interesting comparisons between the universities of the old world and the new, and nobody has had better opportunities of observing the methods and working of each.

The Winnipeg Strike. All the mechanics connected with the building trade at Winnipeg who went out on strike in sympathy with the plumbers, have returned to work. The plumbers still remain out. It is difficult to see that anything has been gained by the sympathetic strike, commensurate with the loss entailed. The employers have consented to give preference to union men, to allow union men to persuade others to join the union (something they could never have prevented), and they have appointed a permanent arbitration board. Apparently the original cause of the trouble has been overlooked.

Canada's Mineral Products. The value of the total mineral production of Canada, marketed in 1905, according to the report of the Geographical Survey, was \$68,574,707 against \$60,073,897 in 1904.

The principal minerals produced were as follows:

	Quantity.	Value.
Copper lbs.	\$47,597,502	\$7,420,451
Gold, Yukon.	\$8,327,200	
" all other.	6,150,633	14,46,833
Iron ore (exports estimated), tons.	116,779	125,119
Pig iron from Canadian ore, tons.	70,554	1,047,860
Lead, lbs.	55,961,000	2,634,084
Nickel, lbs.	18,876,315	7,550,526
Silver, oz.	5,974,875	3,605,957
Cobalt.		100,000
Asbestos, short tons.	50,670	1,486,359
Coal, tons.	8,775,933	17,658,615
Gypsum, tons.	435,789	581,543
Limestones for flux in iron furnaces, tons.	341,614	258,759
Petroleum, brls.	634,095	849,687