

## THE NATIONAL DOMAIN IN CANADA

to be taken on board the steamer. Some Lap herders were also engaged to come over with the reindeer, and the ship discharged its cargo safely near St. Anthony on the coast of Newfoundland. Here there is an abundant supply of reindeer moss and the animals have thriven excellently. The herd now numbers 1,200 and promises to form the basis of a very profitable industry.

During the summer of 1910, His Excellency the Governor General, Earl Grey, after having made a long journey through sub-Arctic Canada, visited Dr. Grenfell's mission and was impressed with the desirability of further extending this experiment by establishing herds of reindeer in north-west Canada. Fifty reindeer were accordingly obtained from Dr. Grenfell as well as two herders and an apprentice to look after the herd; three trained dogs and a supply of moss sufficient for the journey from Newfoundland to the locality chosen, which was near Fort Smith on the Slave river, being nearly on the northern boundary of Alberta. Nineteen of the deer died *en route*, but the remainder of the herd reached Fort Smith safely and in good condition. A considerable number of the deer have since died however, probably owing to too close confinement. If, however, this district proves to be a suitable one, a further shipment of reindeer from Newfoundland will probably be made, and it is hoped that not only at Fort Smith but in many places on the barrens of far northern Canada a valuable industry may thus arise in districts which would otherwise ever remain a wilderness.

**Conclusion** In conclusion it may be said that we have seen that Canada has been blessed with great natural resources. Each and all of these, however, already show signs of serious depletion.

Our mineral resources, like the mineral resources of every country, are in the very nature of the case being depleted in direct proportion to the growth of our annual output of the products of mine and quarry.

Our forests, which are by no means so extensive as is generally supposed, have been cut, slashed and burned in a reckless manner. Our agricultural lands, although showing an ever-increasing output on account of the opening up of new tracts of virgin soil, are not yielding even approximately the returns of which they are capable were they farmed according to more improved modern methods. Our water-powers cannot be maintained at their maximum efficiency if the forest areas of their catchment-basins are not preserved. The fisheries of British Columbia and of our inland waters are seriously threatened. With the continued advance of settlement, our wild fur-bearing animals are in danger of extermination.