

The necessary investigations of the timber, land and water resources for the purpose of government regulation and development, and, after that, for the full benefit of the public in whose interests the operations have been undertaken, involve a heavy expenditure in the construction of roads, trails and bridges. Here again the Provincial Government has made an energetic campaign, the appropriation for public works for this year alone amounting to nearly \$3,000,000—a sum larger than the entire Provincial revenue of a few years back. The greater part of this is being spent for roads, with a liberal allowance for surveys.

It will be seen from the above brief particulars that the three principal requisites for development on a big scale are being carried out together by the Provincial Government in a manner which will ensure to the public the fullest value for their expenditure. This should satisfy those who, for political purposes, have represented that the country was being wilfully left undeveloped and unsurveyed, and silence the complaints as to the difficulty of getting information for those who contemplate settlement. Work of this nature is not done in a day, nor is it done without money. The McBride Government knew this better than their critics, and did not attempt the performance of so large a task until the Provincial finances were in shape to cope with the expenditure.

Referring back for a moment to the policy of the Provincial Government in regard to timber, that part of it must not be overlooked, which has been designed to retain within this Province the benefit of the manufacture of that timber. From the very dawn of commercial history, the country which exported its raw material has remained poor, while the country which manufactured that raw material, whether its own or imported, has grown rich. Of this fact the McBride Government was well aware, and one of their first actions was to so amend and regulate the laws preventing the exportation of logs from the Province as to ensure that every stick of timber cut in it should also be manufactured in it. This has been done so effectually that a large number of American capitalists have come into British Columbia and erected or purchased mills and created a large industry with heavy payrolls, which would otherwise have been established in the United States.

Steps were also taken to call to account the holders of pulp timber concessions, with the result that they were forced to operate their concessions or have them cancelled. The industry is likely to be an extensive one in the near future, and the government's action has weeded out of it a very undesirable element.