

INTRODUCTION

TO the outside world Greater Ontario, or Northern Ontario as it was named by those who did not comprehend its greatness, is a land of mining development, but that is not all. Untold wealth is being hewn from the bowels of the earth, and will continue to be so for a long time to come. The end of the mineral development of this vast hinterland is not yet. It may not arrive during the lifetime of the present or next generation. What of agriculture? The greatness of Greater Ontario really lies in the potentialities of its soil, which, providing it is properly tilled and cared for, will never lose its wonderful wealth-producing properties.

Nothing but a vague conception of what Greater Ontario means and will mean to humanity can be given in a series of short articles on development and progress. Its wonders never cease. Its possibilities are inestimable, because its mines and its farms produce surprises every year. It is the hunter's paradise, the poor man's hope. It is the mining man's El Dorado, the summer home of the continent. Apart from the Peace River District, it is agriculture's really last chance of development on a big scale, and now is the accepted time for all those who would go back to the land and partake of the good things in store.

Ontario contains millions of acres in which the geological formations are favorable for the occurrence of minerals, seventy per cent. of the rocks being of pre-Cambrian age. The rich silver mines of the Cobalt region occur in these rocks, so do the nickel-copper deposits of Sudbury, the gold of Porcupine and Kirkland Lake, the iron ore of Helen, Magpie and Moose Mountain mines. Other products mined and obtained in this Province are cobalt, iron pyrites, arsenic, quartz, graphite, talc, feldspar, mica, corundum, molybdenite, platinum, palladium, actinolite, apatite, fluorite, salt, gypsum, petroleum and natural gas. Building materials such as cement, brick, marble, limestone, sandstone, trap, lime, sand and gravel, are in abundance. Was there ever such a heritage for mankind?