

The local requirements of British Columbia, the promising markets for steel products in China and Russia, and Imperial interests would apparently justify the Government of Canada in securing the erection of a blast furnace and steel plant on the Pacific Coast.

The Cities of Port Arthur and Fort William have extensive and varied industries, established at the head of the Great Lakes, comprising some thirty-four grain elevators, with a capacity of over 54,000,000 bushels, extensive coal docks, shipbuilding plants, a large modern car plant, a pulp mill, wagon works plant, a blast furnace and various other plants. Promising mineral ranges are directly tributary to our cities and substantial shipments of copper and iron pyrites have been made from several mines.

The various steamship lines, three transcontinental railways, the extensive Hydro-electric power, vast timber, mineral and agricultural resources, combined with the strategic position for the assembling of ore, coal and flux, should secure for Port Arthur one of the largest steel plants in the Dominion of Canada.

There are about 600,000 acres of arable land suitable for dairying and mixed farming tributary to the said cities. Large sums of money have been expended in building lines of railway, main highways and branch roads.

During the ten years preceeding 1911 the population of these townships increased over 280 per cent.

The report of the Bureau of Industries for the Province of Ontario for 1915 shows that the average value per acre for all field crops in Thunder Bay District was \$23.04 per acre, and in the whole Province of Ontario \$21.58. Less than six per cent. of this vast area is under cultivation.

### **BOUNTIES OR A PROTECTIVE TARIFF NECESSARY TO DEVELOP OUR MINES AND INDUSTRIES.**

To enable the coal mines of Nova Scotia to exist and pay large royalties into the Treasury of that Province, (now amounting to about \$700,000 each year) the Dominion has, since 1879, imposed a duty of about 50 cents per ton on all bituminous coal imported into Canada. These duties aggregate over \$50,000,000; and in 1914, amounted to \$5,500,000. This amount was principally paid by Ontario and Manitoba.

The bounties of \$1,900,000 paid by the Dominion on lead to secure the profitable operation of the silver-lead mines of British Columbia enabled these mines to produce over \$70,000,000 worth of silver and lead in that Province. During the ten years prior to the war, the Public Works Department spent about \$100,000,000. Up to and including 1917, Canada has spent over \$24,979,000 through its Immigration Department to secure settlers for the farms of Canada. In the last ten years the Department of Agriculture has spent over \$8,000,000. Some