

DOUBLE THE OUTPUT OF OUR STEEL PLANTS.

Whereas Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta have about 200,000,000 acres of arable land, of which only about fifteen per cent. is under cultivation, producing a crop worth about \$518,000,000 in 1916,

And whereas the population of Western Canada is now over 2,000,000, and in ten years has increased 174 per cent., whereas that of Eastern Canada has increased only 17 per cent.,

And whereas there are about 19,000 miles of railway in Western Canada radiating westward from the City of Port Arthur, and manufacturing plants representing over \$308,000,000,

And whereas the United States Steel company some years ago erected a large steel plant at Duluth at a cost of over \$25,000,000 to supply the requirements of the Western States and is about to proceed with the erection of additional mills at a cost of about \$15,000,000,

And whereas the Canadian Northern railway, which is now owned and operated by the Dominion of Canada, furnishes railway facilities to five ranges from 29 to 128 miles of the City of Port Arthur,

And whereas the City of Port Arthur, evidently, holds almost equal facilities for the location of a steel plant to supply the requirements of Western Canada as Duluth does for the Western States,

And whereas practically all the steel plants in the Dominion are in Eastern Canada and have received \$16,000,000 in bounties,

And whereas between 1906 and 1915 Canada imported iron and steel products to the value of about \$632,000,000,

Therefore the Board of Trade of the City of Port Arthur would strongly urge that the capacity of our steel plants be materially increased so as to supply our own requirements, and materially aid in the development of our iron mines, thus furnishing much needed traffic for our railways, and attractive employment for our returned soldiers,

And urge also that the Dominion Government, as owners of the Canadian Northern Railway company, erect a large blast furnace and steel plant in the City of Port Arthur costing at least \$15,000,000, as planned four years ago by the capitalists formerly identified with the said railway enterprise, or guarantee the interest for thirty years on eighty per cent. of the actual capital invested in such a plant, or grant the same guarantees as have been given to our various dry docks and shipbuilding plants to the extent of about \$13,000,000.

And further that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Sir Robert Laird Borden, premier of Canada; Frank H. Keefer, Esq., M. P., and to the chairman of the repatriation committee for Canada.

The Rapid Development of our Iron Mines and the extension of our Steel Industries would materially aid Canada in solving her Railway Problems and lay a firm foundation for future success.