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Editor.

REGINALD E. HORE

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RAILWAYS AND MINING

In the introductory paragraphs of his report to the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway, Mr. A. A. Cole calls attention to the interdependence of railways and mining and to the great part that both have played in the opening up of new districts.

The financial success of the operation of the Ontario Government Railway is directly attributable to the development of the mineral resources at Cobalt, Porcupine and other points in Northern Ontario. On the other hand, the discovery of these mineral deposits and their successful exploitation is directly attributable to the construction of the railway.

The mines along the railway have furnished a good market for supplies of all kinds. Southern Ontario manufacturers and merchants have profited to no small extent by the development of Northern Ontario mines. Gradually also farms have been cleared in the north country. The pioneer farmers were successful primarily because of the railway service and the market furnished by the mines. The railway still depends largely for its business on the mining industry. Other industries are growing, and as new mineral deposits are opened up, a further stimulus will be given to the development of other resources.

In our April 1 issue we published an article by Mr. E. Jacobs on the same subject, with special reference to British Columbia. In this issue will be found extracts from Mr. Cole's report, showing that what is true of British Columbia and Ontario is true of many other districts. Railway construction and mining are largely responsible for the successful development and permanent settlement of places without number.

CONSERVATION OF COAL IN CANADA

The Commission of Conservation has now ready for distribution a very interesting and useful report on Conservation of Coal, written by Mr. W. J. Dick, M.Sc., mining engineer of the Commission. Mr. Dick urges that more care be taken to prevent waste and offers many suggestions which are worthy of careful consideration. Changes in the form of coal mine leases, utilization of slack and low grade coals, manufacture of coal briquettes and comparison of beehive and by-product ovens are among the subjects dealt with.

The subject has been very carefully studied by Mr. Dick and the book contains a fund of information on Canadian coals and mines.