

## To the Reader

**D**EALING with a new, vast and only sparsely settled country," notes by the way "of fifteen hundred miles of railway most necessarily be of a general character, though mention is made of the more important industrial and agricultural developments in evidence along the line.

¶ The actual operation of the railway is destined to change the ordinary conception of the great North Country, as it will change the country itself. Broadly speaking, this new territory, half as big as Europe and quite as desirable for habitation, is justly famous for two things—it is the lake country of the world, and it has also the largest standing forests on the face of the globe. There is no similar area on the continent where a railway brings one into such immediate touch with the wild life so sought by sportsmen—primitive Indians, virgin forests, with all that implies to the real hunter and angler. A holiday in such a region cannot fail to be delightful. There, under the clear, hot, dry air of summer, lie thousands of unnamed sheets of water. There the sun shines in the summer time eighteen hours out of the twenty-four.

¶ The hardy pioneer has not only blazed the trail, but has commenced settlement. His courage and patience are meeting with due reward, as will be the case with the thousands who will eventually find homes on the new lands. Only those who have breathed the air of the true north, who have examined its fertile soil, paddled its magnificent rivers and lakes and have noted its immense water powers for the manufacture of "white coal," can begin to appreciate its possibilities.

¶ "Out-of-Door in Northern Quebec, Northern Ontario and Eastern Manitoba," a companion booklet to "Notes by the Way," will be found to contain much useful information to the devotees of gun and rod. It also includes valuable data with regard to canoe trips.