

CONCLUSION.

The fire, while a great loss, served to cement the Council, Board of Trade, Citizens' Association and Harbor Commission in a closer union to work for the industrial and financial advancement of the city. The shock of the conflagration brought to the surface the resourceful energy and spirit of its people. A spirit once realizing the possibilities that lie hidden in this district, is bound to work for a greater and more beautiful Three Rivers.

The history of Canada in the next 50 years will be that of the United States in the 50 years of the last century. Its population will increase by many thousands every year. Its industries are

bound to expand. New industries will harness the forces that now lie ready to be used in the Great St. Maurice Basin. Of this vast territory, Three Rivers is the gateway. The day is not far distant when Three Rivers will be a city of 40,000 or 50,000 people; when manufacturing sites will hear the hum of countless industries, and when its harbor will have four and five times the ocean tonnage it has to-day, made so by the energy and the progressive spirit of the present generation.

Then an era of progress and prosperity will begin for Three Rivers which, in spite of her situation between two rival seaports, will make it a seat of industrial energy and an important shipping and commercial center.



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