

Northern Ontario's Timber Resources

Synopsis of an Address by Hon. W. H. Hearst, Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines for Ontario, before the Ottawa Canadian Club.

A large and distinguished audience, in which were many lumbermen, greeted Hon. W. H. Hearst on the occasion of his first visit to Ottawa in his public capacity when he addressed the Canadian Club after the luncheon held in the Chateau Laurier on Nov. 8.

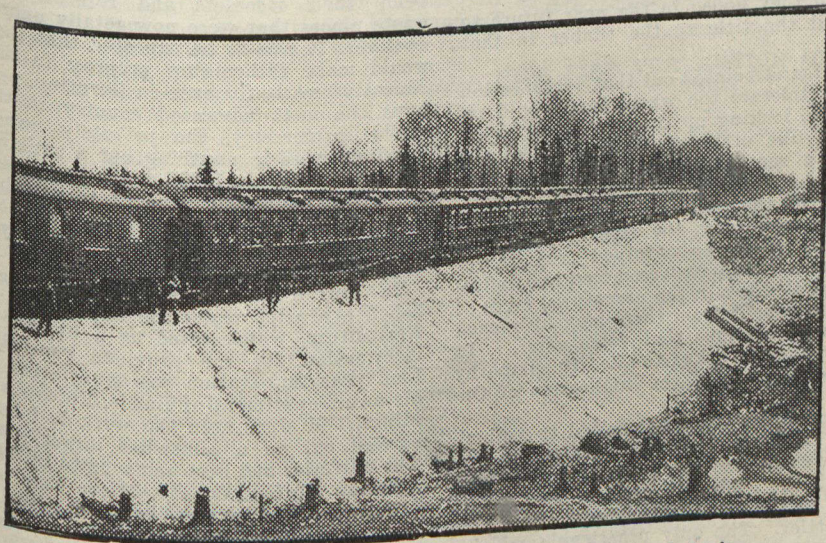
In opening his address Mr. Hearst pointed out that by the addition to Ontario in 1912 of the District of Patricia, with an area of 157,400 square miles, the province now had an area of 418,262 square miles. Of this large area the province had parted with less than 10%, leaving in the Crown in the neighborhood of 375,000 square miles. Ontario was now the second largest province in the Dominion, being exceeded by the Province of Quebec with an area of 706,000 square miles, and followed by British Columbia with 357,000 square miles. About thirteen million acres of land was under cultivation, which amounted to less than 6% of the total area of the province. The field crops of the Dominion for 1912 were worth \$511,000,000, of which Ontario contributed \$192,000,000 worth or fully 37% of the total field crops of the Dominion, exceeding the two largest provinces of the West by over \$26,000,000.

Mr. Hearst dealt in detail with the mineral output of Ontario, and then took up the question of timber. He showed that since Confederation (1867) the province had received a revenue from timber of over \$47,000,000, and the revenue for 1912 from this source was \$1,985,000.

The value of forest products in the Dominion in 1911 was \$166,000,000, about \$22.00 per head of the population of which Ontario contributed a large part. Mr. Hearst illustrated one important aspect of the timber industry in that every year northern Ontario required in farm produce, and other supplies needed for the men in teams engaged in the north country, over two and one half million dollars worth. He also pointed out that besides its initial value in the rough, timber went into almost every kind of manufacture, and that in 1912 Ontario used over \$19,000,000 worth in her manufactures, of which 82% was produced in the province itself.

Ontario's Standing Timber.

As to what standing timber Ontario had, they had not as full a record as they wished, or as they hoped to have in the near future. But the reports of the experts of



Scene on National Transcontinental Railway, Northern Ontario.