

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE UNANIMOUSLY
PASSED BY THE BOARD OF TRADE OF THE
CITY OF PORT ARTHUR

BOUNTY ON IRON.

Whereas, the importance and growth of the iron and steel industry in Canada warrants exceptional measures being taken to make it as far as possible self-sustaining in regard to its supply of raw material.

And whereas, during the last decade over 90 per cent. of the product of the Canadian furnaces was from imported ore, of which 58 per cent. came from the United States Lake Superior mines, and 41.9 per cent. from the Newfoundland mines.

And whereas the proportion of domestic iron ore smelted in Canada has gradually declined until, in 1917, it was only 4.23 per cent.

And whereas the iron ores of Canada are sufficiently known to warrant the statement that there is a large tonnage that could be made available for use by some preliminary treatment, if the increased cost of such treatment were compensated for by a bounty, as the ores of the Atikokan range require roasting, Loon Lake ores hand sorting, Magpie Siderite ores calcining, and Moose Mountain and Bathurst ores concentrating.

And whereas extensive areas of promising iron formations have been located in many parts of Canada, and it is reasonable to expect that the concentrations of merchantable ore will be found in these ranges when systematically exploited, especially on the Steep Rock, Mattewan, Kaminstiquia, Nipigon, Little Long Lake and Michipicoten district.

And whereas the granting of a bounty on iron ore would stimulate the prospecting of these areas, and probably secure the active operation of several mines already developed and equipped at a heavy expenditure in Northern Ontario and provide remunerative freight traffic to several sections of the Canadian Government railways that are at present apparently unproductive,

And whereas the increased employment of mine operators, explorers and transportation employees, together with the general development of our iron mining districts would so materially increase the customs receipts of Canada that the proposed bounty would be a very small tax (if any) on the finances of the Dominion,

Therefore, the Board of Trade of the City of Port Arthur would respectfully urge that the Government of Canada enact the necessary legislation granting a bounty of 50 cents per ton on all iron ore mined and smelted in Canada, the same to be made payable to the mine operator during a period of at least ten years.

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 the Dominion of Canada.