

The report describes the land in each section of the province through which the writer passed, and states that some of the richest land in the province is to be found in the north. Mr. Trendor states that on the average it is well watered and is a very rich loam.

Canadian Peat Bogs

THE known peat bogs of Canada are estimated to cover an area of approximately 36,000 square miles, from which about 28,000,000,000 tons of air-dried peat could be produced. This is said to be equal in fuel value to some 14,000,000,000 tons of coal. To encourage the utilization of these resources, a peat bog of 300 acres, with an average depth of 8 feet, has been acquired by the Canadian Government at Alfred, near Caledonia Springs, Prescott County, Ontario. About five miles of ditches have been dug, and a storage shed to hold 300 tons of air-dried peat, a blacksmith's shop, and an office have been built. It is estimated that the erection of a peat plant capable of producing 30 tons of air-dried peat daily should not cost very much, and since workable peat bogs are scattered throughout the farming regions of Ontario and Quebec, the most economical plan for utilizing this fuel would be the erection of a number of plants at convenient points, to be operated in the interests of the neighboring communities.

British Columbia Timber

STATISTICS collected by the Forestry Branch of the Department of the Interior state that one billion six hundred and twenty million feet of lumber, worth nearly \$25,000,000, was cut in British Columbia in 1910. As a result of greatly increased cutting in the fir and cedar forests, the total amount cut was more than doubled in one year. In 1909 the British Columbia cut constituted one-fifth of the total; in 1910 the proportion formed by the western province was one-third, and it lacked only forty-five million feet of surpassing the cut in Ontario. Seven important soft woods make up over 99 per cent. of the cut in British Columbia—Douglas fir, cedar, western yellow pine, tamarack, spruce, hemlock and jack pine. Nearly 45 per cent. of the total was made

up by Douglas fir. This species was cut in 1910 to the extent of nearly seven hundred and twenty million feet, and had the largest actual increase shown by any species—an increase of nearly two hundred and fifty million feet. Cedar composed one-fifth of the total, and was the second wood in magnitude of cut. The three hundred and fifteen million feet of this species cut was an increase of two hundred and seventeen million feet over the 1909 production. The cut of yellow pine, amounting to one hundred and eighty-three million feet, was nearly six times as much as the amount cut in 1909, and was sufficient to raise it from fourteenth to sixth place in importance among the lumber-producing trees in Canada.

British Columbia contains about 182,000,000 acres of forest and woodland. The output from these forests already amounts to about \$25,000,000 annually. Investment interest has of late been largely directed to timber propositions, and there is no doubt that well-selected limits so situated as to be easily logged off will prove satisfactory investments. But there is no doubt, too, that some equally good limits situated less advantageously for logging operations are going to prove disappointing as an investment.

European Capital in British Columbia

EUROPEAN interest—French, German and Belgian—in British Columbia investment opportunities is growing apace, as it is, indeed, throughout the Canadian west generally.

The recent visit of M. Andre Lazard to British Columbia was to invest \$3,000,000 in Vancouver Island coal properties, according to news recently made public. M. Lazard is managing partner of the great French financial institution known as Lazard Freres, of Paris.

Lazard Freres are already interested in the Canadian Collieries, Ltd., holdings. Mr. R. M. Kindersley, the representative of Lazard Freres, who accompanied M. Lazard on his visit to the coal mines at Extension and other Vancouver Island fields, stated that \$3,000,000 had been appropriated for the purpose of further opening up the coal properties of Vancouver Island.

A month or so ago M. Georges Barbey, also representing a prominent group of